

RESURRECTION NEWS



THERE IS
Always
SOMETHING TO BE
Thankful
FOR

November 2022

Pastor's Letter

November 2022

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

November is a time of change. This is true in a worldly sense in a number of ways. We change the clocks on November 6. We experience the change in weather from the colorful beauty of fall to the dull cold of the approaching winter. Election day often marks a change in leadership. And we see a stark change from the gratitude of Thanksgiving Day to the consumerism of Black Friday and the “holiday season.” The change is tangible.

November is also a time of change in the church. On Tuesday, November 1, we celebrate All Saints' Day. On November 20, we celebrate the last Sunday of the church year, which shifts our focus from the teachings of our Lord to an expectation of his return on the last day. The paraments will change from white (on All Saints' Day) back to green and finally to blue (on the First Sunday in Advent) in the span of a month. The change is tangible.

During this season of change, I invite you to meditate on this Scriptural truth: *“I the LORD do not change”* (Malachi 3:6) and *“You are the same, and your years have no end”* (Psalm 102:27) and *“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever”* (Hebrews 13:8). It's hard to imagine an existence without change. Our lives, in many ways, are founded on change. We are constantly changing. Everything that we experience changes us. We are a people constantly changing.

And yet, our Lord doesn't change. How can this be so? Well, it can be so because our Lord is wholly other than us. As the creator of all things, he is not subject to the whims and decays of time. He is above it all—the constant presence which holds the universe together.

In this fact that our Lord doesn't change, we Christians can take immense comfort. We are prone to change our minds and our opinions so easily. But when God reveals his character to us as *“a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness”* (Exodus 34:6), we can have utter confidence that this will never change.

In the first verse of John 13, we read: *“Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end”* (John 13:1). That's quite a statement to say that he loved them to the end. But because we have a God whose character does not change, it doesn't matter that we haven't reached the end yet. *“His steadfast love endures forever”*, as the famous refrain of Psalm 136 puts it.

My friends, during this season of change, you can be sure of one thing. You will never have to guess where you stand with God. His love for you was demonstrated definitively in Jesus, who died for your sins so that your debt might be paid and that you might be guaranteed an eternal home. For those of us who believe in him, this reality will never change. Thanks be to God!

Peace in Jesus,
Pastor Akers

*My Savior paid the debt I owe And for my sin was smitten
Within the Book of Life I know My name has now been written.
I will not doubt, for I am free,
And Satan cannot threaten me; There is no condemnation!*
(LSB 508:5)

Notes from your Deaconess

Dear Brothers and Sisters of LCR,

Before the end of this month we will reach the end of another church year and begin a new one with Advent. What blessings we receive as we go through these church seasons repeatedly!

Our next portions of The Book of Concord also have to do with things repeated—the *Small Catechism* and the *Large Catechism*. They both actually predate the *Augsburg Confession*. Luther published them in 1529, the year prior to the confession. The word “catechesis” means “a teaching,” but it derives from a Greek word, *katecho* that originally had the sense of speaking by mouth—or re-sounding, echoing. We always return to these teachings and strive to know them well (or even by heart), as they summarize the Christian teachings of scripture.

Martin Luther’s prefaces to these two catechisms explain his purpose and motive for writing them. In visiting various churches, he observed that most parishioners didn’t even know or understand the basics of their faith, what we call the six chief parts: The Ten Commandments, the Creed, The Lord’s Prayer, The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, Confession, and the Sacrament of the Altar. He urged pastors, preachers, heads of households, and all Christians to learn and study these catechisms and the Bible itself. We still need to do so!

This month I think we will only have one Saturday morning women’s Bible study, because of the Thanksgiving holiday. Right now each session contains a “stand-alone” study, so feel free to join any day you might like to do so. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. on November 12 for about an hour and a half. You can also join via a Zoom link which I can send if you let me know you’d like to do that.

Under his mercy,
Sharon M. Conover

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. Micah 7:18-19

Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.” Matthew 18:21-22

All Saints' Day

This year, All Saints' Day falls on **Tuesday, November 1**. We will celebrate with Divine Services at **noon** and **7 p.m.**

Mid-Week Advent Service Schedule

The first Sunday in Advent falls on Sunday, November 27. Mid-week Advent services will be held on the following **Wednesdays at noon & 7 p.m.: 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, & 12/21.**

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Once again this year we will be hosting a Thanksgiving food drive for the guests at the Mid Maine Homeless Shelter. For the past several years we have provided 25 -30 food baskets with everything needed for a great Thanksgiving dinner. This effort is supplemented by Thrivent as they provide a \$250 gift card to get started. We will use the card to buy the turkeys. In addition, if we collect 500 food items they will donate an additional \$500 to a charity of our choice if we meet certain requirements. Please help support this effort again this year!! Below is a list of items for the Thanksgiving meal and other items needed by the Shelter. Our collection area will be in a downstairs classroom. Please have all food in no later than November 6. If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Anderson or Brian Watson. THANK YOU!!

Items for the meal:

- Stuffing
- Canned cranberries
- Canned corn and peas
- Jars of gravy
- Jiffy corn muffin mix
- Brownie mix
- Instant potatoes

Other Items Needed:

- Jelly (smaller jars)
- Parmesan Cheese
- Ketchup
- Stuffing mix
- Bar B Q sauce
- Spaghetti sauce
- Ranch dressing

Annual Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendars for the annual congregational meeting, which will be held on **Sunday, December 11**, following the Divine Service. December 18 will be the backup date, should the weather be poor on the 11th. More information will be available next month.



Daylight Savings begins Sunday, November 6

Defending the Faith.

Sometimes the best defense is a good defense.

“Why do you Christians insist on telling this “creation” fable, when evolution explains everything?”

This is Part 1 of a 3-part series...

We hold to certain beliefs that can be called the Christian worldview. Hopefully, we hold that worldview not because Mom, Dad and the Pastor said so - but because it's true.

How do we know? Sure, we take some things on faith. But in others, there's evidence and it's more than sufficient - at least for those who are not fanatically dedicated to denying it.

So when you're in a discussion about creation vs evolution, you have to ask a question. What do you mean by “evolution”?

The reason you need to ask that question is that the term can be used in a number of different ways. In some ways, we should be in complete agreement with the atheist!

In the strictest sense of the word, evolution is simply change over time. In that sense, our coastline evolves as a result of wave action. Mountains evolve due to the collision of tectonic plates and erosion by weather. Organisms change as a result of external forces - like bacteria developing resistance to antibiotics.

Nobody disputes these examples of evolution. They are clearly verifiable and repeatable and they are not the slightest bit anti-Christian.

But evolution of one species into another species is an unproven theory - and it's one that is often used by atheists to try to disprove the existence of God and His work in creating the universe. This is where we part company with the atheist.

Let's address just three points in this series of articles. There are many more ways to confront the evolutionary atheist proposition on this topic, but these three are so powerful in their own right that you may not need to go further.

This month, we'll address the origin of life.

This one is easy. Darwinists and atheists simply have no viable explanation for “first life”. There are competing theories about how life sprang from non-life, but none rise to the level of plausibility.

For example, Biochemist Robert Shapiro has summarized the "primordial soup" theory in its "mature form" as follows:

1. The early Earth had a chemically reducing atmosphere. (This is more chemistry than I'm comfortable explaining - but let's grant it to the atheist, just for the sake of discussion)
2. This atmosphere, exposed to energy in various forms, produced simple organic compounds.
3. These compounds accumulated in a "soup", which may have been concentrated at various locations (shorelines, oceanic vents etc.).
4. By further transformation, more complex organic polymers – and ultimately life – developed in the soup.

I hope you noticed the massive leaps of faith in steps 2 and 4!

In step 2, Atmosphere + energy = organic compounds.

In step 4, “further transformation” caused life to develop in the “soup”

Further transformation?? Seriously?? That's the best you can do, Mr. Atheist?

Many of the atheist attempts to explain the origin of life have enormous gaps that get filled in with what amounts to “andthensomethinghappened” (See? It sounds good if you say it fast)

Many may still point to the famous Urey-Miller experiment. This was a lab experiment performed in 1953 where two scientists (Urey and Miller) attempted to create amino acids (the supposed “building blocks” of life) in a test tube by combining gases that they assumed existed in the primordial earth with a lightning simulation.

While they did indeed form amino acids, this experiment has been discredited because it neither simulated the early atmosphere (wrong gas mixtures) nor lightning (they used continuous current, not short, massive jolts of extremely high current and voltage).

But let's be more than charitable to the scientists and say that the experiment was completely successful. Let's say that they did create amino acids in a test tube that really did simulate primordial earth. What did they accomplish?

First, all they did was to create a complex acid - they never even remotely approached the creation of life. At this point in history, the most advanced scientific method cannot even create a living blade of grass.

Second, Urey-Miller proved that an intelligent designer who could rigidly control conditions could create amino acids. We know that “intelligent designer” as God. Have fun pointing that out to your atheist friends. The challenge is to do it graciously when deep down inside, you picture yourself laughing as they realize that they have painted themselves into a corner.

Perhaps this is best summed up by a story.

One day a scientist said to God, “That's it. We don't need you anymore. We now know how to create life”

God replies “OK, let's see what you can do” The scientist says “It's easy. You start with some dirt...” God interrupts and says “Hold on - let's see you make your own dirt!”

Stay tuned for next month's installment, “A complete hostility to life!”

As always, I'm open to questions, comments and criticism at Charles.j.macpherson@gmail.com

Charlie MacPherson, SDG

Members of the Month – Michelle & Mike Hein

Mike was born in Gary, Indiana but grew up in Maine—his mother’s home state. Mike grew up in Whitefield where he attended elementary school. At 13, his family moved to Windsor, where he attended middle school, and then Cony High School, in Augusta. Mike played various sports and began a lifelong love of baseball. In high school, he excelled in his studies, ran cross-country, and had a part-time job cleaning hotel rooms.



Mike’s mother loves to boast that he started reading the newspaper at the age of three and anyone who knows Mike can attest to his love of printed material! He’s known by many for sharing newspaper clippings with proud parents whose kids play school sports or for simply finding an article in a random magazine he thinks someone (maybe you) would be interested in. In fact, the very first things he gave to Michelle were a newspaper article and a magazine. (He also brought her chocolates as it was their first “unofficial” date!)

Influenced by his mother, who was an Army Veteran (WAC), at 17 years old, Mike joined the Army National Guard. His first posting was out of Gardiner, Maine; and then he was transferred to Camp Keyes in Augusta and continued his service throughout college. Upon Mike’s honorable discharge, he had attained officer status as a Lieutenant with the Chemical Division.

Mike attended Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he earned a degree in political science with a minor in history. During and after college, Mike worked in security and then collections. He currently is employed by the State of Maine.

Mike was baptized as an infant—however; he felt his walk with Jesus really started in Wisconsin where he attended a Wisconsin Synod Lutheran church. Mike eventually found his way to the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection in 2004.

Mike’s likely been in Maine long enough to be considered a Mainer...but Michelle’s a true Mainiac! She was born here—in Machias. She has one younger sister (and many step-siblings and half-siblings). Michelle has fond memories of growing up “Downeast”. She can’t remember a time when she didn’t know Jesus—attending Awana’s weekly, Sunday school, as well as day and evening church services on Sunday.

From the age of six until the age of fourteen, Michelle’s family moved seven times and she attended nine different schools. Michelle has lived from Caribou to Machias, Lubec to Bangor, to the state of Texas, and finally settled in Gardiner and graduated from Gardiner Area High School.

Michelle worked various retail and customer service-related jobs. She worked for a family-owned office supply company in Vermont, where she lived for nine years. She also earned her certificate as a Massage Therapist while in Vermont.

Upon moving back to Maine in 2002, she worked for several doctor’s offices as a receptionist and office manager. She earned her Paralegal Certification and worked as a Paralegal for several years. Michelle started working for the State of Maine in 2009 and continues there as a public servant with the Department of Labor.

Mike and Michelle first met in high school through mutual friends. Michelle was at Gardiner and Mike attended Gardiner’s rival, Cony High School. It was like most high school friendships—attending separate schools but getting together with groups of friends to hang out. They wish they could tell you they were a rowdy bunch and lived to tell the tale! Alas, they were pretty innocent, naïve, normal teenagers. Had you told either of them they would end up married to each other 24 years later they may have laughed.

They would last see each other during winter break in 1989; until their story together picked up again in the fall of 2010. It truly was love at first sight. They married in June 2011 here at LCR.

Michelle says that meeting Mike again and joining LCR was her walk back to Christ. Seeing Mike’s love for Jesus and how committed he was to God and LCR was an eye-opening time for Michelle. They both feel that becoming Lutheran and immersing in God’s word as a couple is a deep, rich blessing for them. Mike has enjoyed seeing Michelle flourish in her walk with Christ and Michelle is thankful to God for revealing Himself to her again through Mike and his walk with Christ.

Since being diagnosed with Pulmonary Sarcoidosis in 2008, Michelle has learned to adjust her lifestyle based on her body’s needs. High risk has become such a buzzword in the last two years—but it’s not new to Michelle or Mike. Covid

has just added a new, more dramatic layer to things for them. God’s grace and their trust in Him keep them steadfast and focused. Michelle is grateful every day for the support and comfort Mike so generously bestows upon her.



Oskar & Peanut

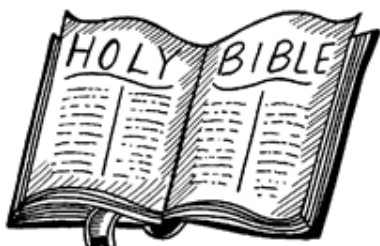
Both Mike and Michelle, who have a home in Fairfield, have several personal interests: Of course, they both adore their furmeisters—Oskar and Peanut—felines through and through! Mike still enjoys running—now on a treadmill at home. He is active in the state employees union as a board member and volunteers with several state and local organizations. Michelle enjoys a variety of DIY projects, crocheting, and remotely attending the women’s Bible study as often as possible.

Mike and Michelle have been attending the online church services since they began in 2020. They look forward to the day when they are comfortable attending in-person worship with all of us again.

November Stewardship

	<u>November 6</u>	<u>November 13</u>	<u>November 20</u>	<u>November 27</u>
<u>Acolyte</u>	Hayley Farr	Evan Farr	Matthew Akers	Hayley Farr
<u>Worship Assistant</u>	Steve Farr	Charlie MacPherson	Mark Larsen	Glenn Carlson Sr
<u>Ushers</u>	John Ayotte	Mo Cote	Brad Fitzpatrick	Glenn Carlson Jr.
<u>Greeters</u>	Steve & Lydia Bendas	Chris & Yvonne Batson	James Breslin	Julie Kohl
<u>Altar Care</u>	Katie Huesers	Avis Grant	Amber Akers	Joan Drageland
<u>Flowers</u>	Avis Grant	Anna Rowe	Anna Rowe	Jayne Labbe
<u>Fellowship</u>	Open	Sharon Klipp	Open	Breslin, Fischer, Galonski

All Saints Day		
Service 11/1/2022		
Usher	Noon	Rick Drageland
Usher	7:00pm	OPEN
Worship Assistant	Noon	Glenn Carlson Sr.
Worship Assistant	7:00pm	Chris Batson
Altar Care		Lydia Bendas



Monthly Worship

November 1
All Saints' Day

Psalm: 149
First Reading: Revelation 7:2-17
Epistle: John 3:1-3
Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

November 6
The Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity

Psalm: 8
Old Testament: Genesis 1:1-2.3
Epistle: Ephesians 6:10-17
Holy Gospel: John 4:46-54

November 13
The Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity
Psalm: 116:12-19
Old Testament: Micah 6:6-8
Epistle: Philippians 1:3-11
Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

November 20
Last Sunday of the Church Year
Psalm: 149
Old Testament: Isaiah 65:17-25
Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

November 27
First Sunday in Advent
Psalm: 24
Old Testament: Jeremiah 25:5-8
Epistle: Romans 13:11-14
Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:1-9

BIBLE QUIZ

1. According to the Bible, man has no better thing under the sun than what?
 - A. Gardening
 - B. To eat, drink, and be merry
 - C. To help someone in need
 - D. Family
2. What does the Bible say Jesus used to feed four thousand men?
 - A. Wine and some wafers
 - B. Seven quails
 - C. Six loaves and two eggs
 - D. Seven loaves and a few little fishes
3. How long does the Bible say the Israelites ate manna?
 - A. Forty years
 - B. One year
 - C. Four weeks
 - D. One week
4. What does the Bible say we should be anxious about?
 - A. Everything
 - B. Dragons
 - C. Death
 - D. Nothing
5. After Jesus fed five thousand people from just five loaves and two fishes, how many basketfuls of broken pieces did the disciples pick up?
 - A. Twelve
 - B. There were not any leftovers
 - C. One
 - D. Seven
6. When the resurrected Jesus appeared to his disciples in the Gospel according to Luke and he asked them if they had anything to eat, what did they give him?
 - A. A flattened calf
 - B. Bread and some wine
 - C. A piece of broiled fish (and maybe some honeycomb)
 - D. A small piece of chocolate
7. Out of what does the Bible say God made every animal?
 - A. Out of the ground
 - B. Out of water
 - C. Out of thin air
 - D. Out of the heavens



11/1 Mia Fitzpatrick
 11/6 Avis Grant
 Gail Maestas
 11/13 Fernando Gouvea
 11/16 Hayley Farr
 11/21 Jessie Shaw
 11/22 Eleanor Keefe
 11/23 Peter Doran
 David Leigh
 11/29 Rick Drageland



11/18 Adolph Galonski
 11/27 Corina Wilson
 11/?? Krista Carlson
 Sarah Kohl



11/7 David & Kay Gideon
 11/18 Peter & Evelyn Gaug
 11/23 Dan & Beck Keefe
 11/30 Bill & Jo Schiebel



11/14 Sharon Conover
 Mike Hein
 11/26 Tyler Wilson



A Sunday School teacher began her lesson with a question, 'Boys and girls, what do we know about God?'

A hand shot up in the air. 'He is an artist!' said the kindergarten boy.

Really? How do you know?' the teacher asked.

'You know - Our Father, who does art in Heaven... '

A cat died and went to Heaven . . . God met her at the gates and said, "You have been a good cat all these years. Anything you want is yours for the asking."

The cat thought for a minute and then said, "All my life I lived on a farm and slept on hard wooden floors. I would like a real fluffy pillow to sleep on."

God said, "Say no more." Instantly the cat had a huge fluffy pillow.

A few days later, six mice were killed in an accident and they all went to Heaven together. God met the mice at the gates with the same offer that He made to the cat

The mice said, "Well, we have had to run all of our lives: from cats, dogs, and even people with brooms! If we could just have some little roller skates, we would not have to run again."

God answered, "It is done." All the mice had beautiful little roller skates.

About a week later, God decided to check on the cat. He found her sound asleep on her fluffy pillow. God gently awakened the cat and asked, "Is everything okay? How have you been doing? Are you happy?"

The cat replied, "Oh, it is WONDERFUL. I have never been so happy in my life. The pillow is so fluffy, **and those little Meals on Wheels you have been sending over are delicious!"**

BIBLE QUIZ ANSWERS

1. B. (Ecclesiastes 8:15)
2. D. (Matthew 15:32-38)
3. A. (Exodus 16:35)
4. D. (Philippians 4:6)
5. A. (Matthew 14:20)
6. C. (Luke 24:36-43)
7. A. (Genesis 2:19)