

RESURRECTION NEWS



OCTOBER 2020

Pastor's Letter

September 2020

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

October has always been one of my favorite months of the year. I love the chilly mornings, the brisk fall breeze, and the beauty of the leaves as they change colors. I've never cared much for summer — it's too hot (although the break from school and other activities is nice!). I like winter, but it usually lasts too long. Spring is great, but it rains too much. Maybe I'm too picky, but I've always loved fall more than the other seasons, and, for me, October is the high point of fall. If I'm being honest, though, it's not just the weather that I love in fall. I've always looked forward to the return to school & normal routines, the crunchy leaves under my feet, the anticipation of the first snowfall. Some people tell me that they love spring because of the new life that springs up. I've begun to realize that hidden underneath my love for fall is an odd obsession/fascination with death. Fall is a season of death. Fall begins with the lush, vibrancy of summer and ends with the dull, lifelessness of winter. Fall is a season of death and dying — but there's something about this season of death and dying that I really resonate with.

If you've read many of Paul's letters in the New Testament, you might have noticed that Paul has an odd obsession with death too. In Romans 8:13, he says, "If by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live." In Galatians 2:20, he says, "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me." In Ephesians 2:1-2, he says, "And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked..." I could give more examples, but I think you get the idea. Paul has an odd obsession with talking about death. But, if you pay close attention, you'll notice that Paul isn't a necromaniac. He's not obsessed with death in an unhealthy way. He always talks about death and life together. For Paul, true life cannot happen without death occurring first.

Look closely at what Paul says in Romans 6:3-4: "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life." For Paul, death is necessary. Because of human sinfulness, death is required in order to bring about new life. If we want to live with Jesus each day, we must die to ourselves each day. Martin Luther talks about this in his Small Catechism when he says that baptism "indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever."

My prayer for you this October and beyond is that as you look outside and see the increasing death all around you, you would be reminded of the death that we all must die to sin & to self each day. And I pray that you would also remember that, just as the new life of spring will come in a few months (long as they might seem), there is new life awaiting you and I on the last day when Jesus returns to take us to be with him forever. Even though we live in a time of death, in the end, life will triumph over death. Thanks be to God that Jesus' resurrection assures us of this reality!

Peace in Jesus,
Pastor Akers

Notes from your Deaconess

Dear Brothers and Sisters of LCR,

What church family siblings have you missed during these last months? Have you communicated with them – by phone or card or email? I suspect they'd love to hear from you as much as you would from them. If you have the time, energy, ability, sense of safety, you could even offer to visit them or meet together somewhere. *Koinonia* in the body of Christ, a Greek word which refers to the fellowship, the deep connections we form with each other as members of the church, grows out of the time we spend with each other. We come to know each other as beloved and redeemed by God, as we worship, pray, and study God's word together, still fighting against sin (that state of being "simultaneously sinner and saint"), and knowing we need each other to keep on living in baptismal repentance.

I encourage you to seriously sink yourselves into the Bible narratives which we will explore in the month of October in Sunday School and Sunday Bible study. We'll read and discuss the obedience of Abraham in his willingness to return his only son Isaac to God in sacrifice – and God's merciful substitute. We'll journey with the prayerful servant of Abraham seeking a wife for Isaac seeing how bold and specific prayers will (at least at times) have amazing answers from the Lord. Sibling issues and family struggles highlight our remaining two weeks as we encounter the twin sons of Isaac, and then the dozen sons of Jacob. All these family members (**our** ancestors in the faith and in Christ) lived in a world as complicated and marred by sin as ours – and yes!--even in their own families. God continued to work for good in all circumstances, leading to the blessing of all nations through Jesus' work which had begun in these families.

I continue to hold every-other-week Saturday morning women's Bible studies. We just completed our journey through Hebrews together, and will probably visit with a few Biblical women over the next couple of meetings. We have some ideas of studying the books of James and the Acts of the Apostles which we may begin to pursue as well. Right now we're planning on October 3, 17, and 31, at 8:30am in the fellowship hall downstairs. I'd be happy to add you to my email list whether you think you'll make it or not. You also can just show up, or I'm happy to provide a means for virtual participation.

During October our daily lectionary readings come from Deuteronomy and the gospel of Matthew. Deuteronomy sums up the five books of the Torah, and Matthew's gospel contains five major sections of teaching by Jesus to parallel the number of books of the Torah. This interesting pairing of law and gospel leads us through the law given by the Lord through Moses, and the re-teaching, extension and fulfillment of the law by the Lord Jesus. We will also continue to hear from the gospel of Matthew during our Sunday worship services.

Under his mercy,
Sharon M. Conover

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."
Matthew 5:17

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." Matthew 18:20

Dear Brothers and Sisters of LCR,

Thank you all so much for your generous gifts at my retirement of a \$3,000 gift certificate to LLBean for me and an Apple Watch for Deb. I'll have no trouble at all using my gift on some new hiking and fishing gear. It may take Deb awhile to figure out her new watch however.

Thank you all for a wonderful celebration party on the 13th! For all of the work that went into it and last minute changes and adjustments that had to be made, it was perfect! I deeply appreciated the opportunity to say good-bye and for all of the kind and gracious words that were shared.

You will all always be in my heart. God's richest blessings overflow on you. If you're ever in North Carolina, please plan to visit.

Yours in Christ.

Pastor and Deb Nielsen

Fellowship:

Six months is a long time to go with no church fellowship! As leaders of LCR, we're sure that you are feeling the effects of this just as much as we are. We were made to walk through life together. Fellowship is a vital aspect of what it means to be a community of faith. We've had conversations about how to resume some sort of church fellowship activities without compromising safety, but in the end, we've come to realize that we need more brain power to come up with ideas of how to accomplish this. If you have any creative ideas for fellowship activities to help people connect with one another (utilizing outdoor space, technology, or anything else), please let Pastor Akers or the church office know! Thank you in advance for your ideas!

Front Entry Work Scheduled to Begin October 12th:

A generous donor is making a donation to LCR to cover the cost of replacing our front sidewalk, wheelchair ramp, and front door as well as re-finishing the front steps to make our church entry ADA compliant and more accessible to those with difficulties getting around. This donor has requested to remain anonymous, but we want to thank this donor for his/her generosity and the blessing this gift will be to members (present and future) of LCR! **Work is scheduled to begin on October 12th.** If all goes according to plan, we will only be without the use of the front door for one Sunday (October 18th). That weekend, we'll have to have worshippers enter the building through the back door and come up the stairs. We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause some of you who have difficulties with stairs, but once the work is done, we know it will have been worth it! As with all construction-type projects, this will be dependent on the weather, and the timeline might be adjusted slightly. **Please keep an eye out in your email and before worship for an announcement with more information as the time gets closer.**

Fall Worship Schedule:

- 8:30am Worship
- 10:00am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
- 10:45am Worship

Please Note: Gathering restrictions are still in place and masks & physical distancing will still be required for Worship until recommendations from the CDC are adjusted. Thank you for your cooperation and your continued willingness to RSVP prior to attending worship services.

Thanksgiving Food Drive:

There will be a food drive October 4 to October 31 for the Homeless Shelter and their food bank. We need to collect 500 non-perishable food items to qualify for a Thrivent match of \$250, which will be used to buy turkeys. Please leave all food donations in Room 103. Items needed are gravy, instant potatoes, corn, green beans, peas, stuffing, cranberry sauce, brownies, Jiffy muffins, pasta and sauce, and peanut butter and jelly. Please also see signup in Narthex.

Thank you from The Maine Children's Home for Little Wanderers:

Thank you for your support for Christmas Program. You very graciously sent items in support of this program last year and/or early this year, and in the confusion of changed and adjustments made by MCH during the onset of COVID-19 in early March, we dropped the ball! Please accept my apology and accept my thanks on behalf of all the children and families who benefit from the generosity and kindness of you and others who support this program.

All the best,
Elizabeth Barron
Director of Operations

October Stewardship

	<u>October 4</u>	<u>October 11</u>	<u>October 18</u>	<u>October 25</u>
<u>Acyolyte</u>	10:45 Andrew Farr	10:45 Emily Carlson	10:45 Evan Farr	10:45 Allison Farr
<u>Worship Assistant</u>	8:30 Brian Watson 10:45 Chris Batson	8:30 Glenn Carlson 10:45 Steve Farr	8:30 Brian Watson 10:45 Mark Larsen	8:30 Charlie MacPherson 10:45 Dan Callahan
<u>Ushers</u>	8:30 Rick Drageland 10:45 Mo Cote	8:30 Charlie MacPherson 10:45 Glenn Carlson, Jr.	8:30 Rick Drageland 10:45 John Ayotte	8:30 Rick Drageland 10:45 Wayne Pellitier
<u>Greeters</u>	8:30 Gail Carrano 10:45 The Batsons	8:30 The Watsons 10:45 The Wilsons	8:30 The MacPhersons 10:45 Dorthy Mc Allister	8:30 Sharon Klipp 10:45 The Gouveas
<u>Altar Care</u>	Amanda Goldsmith	Amy Ouellette	Sasha Fitzpatrick	Krista Carlson
<u>Flowers</u>	Rick and Joan Drageland	Sharon Klipp	Sharon Klipp	OPEN

Members of the Month!

Restrictions have greatly reduced our fellowship opportunities at LCR. To help foster more togetherness, LCR is starting a "Member of the Month" page. The first family featured is a new/old family: They were members previously and have recently rejoined the congregation. That family is Candy and Don Schorr, of Augusta.

Don retired last November from medical billing. In his early years, he served in the National Guard in New Jersey. Candy works in a school cafeteria: Due to COVID, things have been very chaotic since school resumed. The school situation seems to change constantly making what to serve and how to pack all the home meals a challenge.

Don and Candy have been married 51 years and have two children. Their son was in the Air Force for six years but now lives in Maine. He owns the Drive Maine car rental agency in Gardiner (www.experiencedrivemaine.com) which specializes in antique and classic car rentals – including a British taxi which can be chauffeured for special occasions. His wife is a lawyer for the State of Maine, and together they have two children, aged 4 & 10.



Their daughter lives in California and is a home-schooling mom to two boys and one girl. Her husband works in a hospital dealing with contracts. With the distance involved between here and California, Don and Candy don't get to see the family as much as they would like, but usually get together once-a-year or so – sometimes making cross-country car trips.

Candy likes sewing clothes and quilting. Don builds and paints scale model military tanks. They both enjoy reading. Predictably, Don enjoys reading military history; while Candy enjoys reading detective novels and love stories. Rather than going to movies, they both like watching the streaming service, BritBox, featuring British movies/TV programs – where there's no need to purchase expensive movie theatre popcorn as Candy pops their own! Favorite programming on BritBox is Agatha Christie stories and European history programs. Vacations are car trips to explore historic sites.

They are Civil War buffs. For Don, it's very personal: One of his relatives was the Civil War-era politician and general, Daniel Sickles. General Sickles is noted for having dueled and killed the son of Francis Scott Key. He also served as U.S. Minister to Spain. Later he was re-elected to Congress, where he helped pass legislation to preserve the Gettysburg Battlefield. Both feel that you accept what history is, learning from it and moving forward.

Don and Candy used to really enjoy China Dinah, in China – where the folks and meals just felt homey. Unfortunately, it closed due to COVID. They also enjoy Lisa's Restaurant in Augusta. Their first "eat-in" restaurant experience since COVID was at Olive Garden last month, but felt strange with the new rules. COVID in general seems to have resulted in more loneliness and separation of people. However, Candy loves to cook: She makes some Jewish recipes and does Italian cooking as well! Favorite dessert at the Schorr home is cake – she, chocolate, and he, apple!

Asked about what advice they would give to the young, Candy says be aware of feelings of others and practice patience. Really get to know each other before making commitments. Go slow in dating. Don especially emphasizes the importance of patience.

On thoughts for fellow seniors – be happy just to wake up in the morning! Make the most of it. Don't live, "What if?" lives.

Future dreams for Candy and Don are to see their grandchildren more often, but they're happy with whatever comes. They just like to make it through the day, kiss goodnight, and hope to make it to the morning!

The Schorr's feel blessed to be in a church they will enjoy for as long as God allows. They're so pleased that some folks remember them at LCR. They look forward every week to coming to church for Word and Sacrament.



Monthly Worship

October 4, 2020

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 80:7-19

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

Epistle: Philippians 3:4b-14

Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

October 11, 2020

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 23

First Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-13

Holy Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

October 18, 2020

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 96:1-13

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

October 25, 2020

Reformation Sunday

Psalm: 46

First Reading: Revelation 14:6-7

Epistle: Romans 3:19-28

Holy Gospel: John 8:31-36

BIBLE QUIZ

1. How many books are there in the Bible?

A) 27 B) 39 (C) 66 (D) 124

2. Which church was found faithful in Revelation?

A) Sardis B) Philadelphia C) Ephesus D) Laodicea

3. Which of Noah's sons became the father of Canaan?

A) Cain B) Shem C) Japheth D) Ham

4. Who beguiled King Solomon into worshipping foreign false gods?

A) his foreign cupbearer B) his foreign wives (C) his own children D) his own political advisors

5. In which city were Christians first called "Christians"?

A) Jerusalem B) Corinth C) Ephesus D) Antioch

6. What was unusual about King Nebuchadnezzar's request to have his dream interpreted?

A) they had to first translate the dream into their language B) they had to first guess what the dream was about C) they had to first offer one of their sons for sacrifice D) they had to first pay money for the honor of interpreting the dream



Our collection for the month of October will be for the Boy's & Girl's Club's after school program. They are in need of: canned tuna or chicken, tuna or chicken in pouches, canned vegetables, fruit cups and juice boxes.

LWML Sunday will be October 4th. There will be a collection for "Mites".

It was decided that this year's Craft Fair will be cancelled. We are hoping to have an event (craft fair/white elephant sale/ bake sale) in the spring or summer of 2021.



10/1 Mari Gouvea
 10/3 Julie Kohl
 10/5 Jo Scheibel
 10/8 Bill Scheibel
 10/12 Sharon Kinter
 10/14 Christine Guzman
 Marlene Pryor
 10/15 Krista Carlson
 10/21 Corina Wilson
 10/23 Rev. Paul Nielsen
 Amy Ouellette
 10/31 Dottie Evertson

10/10 Glenn & Kitty Carlson
 10/12 Seth & Angie Carlson
 10/21 Sharon & Dennis Klipp
 10/30 Rick & Joan Drageland

TICKLING THE FUNNY BONE

Jesus, Moses and an elderly man are playing golf. Moses steps up to the tee and hits the ball. It goes sailing over the fairway and lands in the water hazard. So Moses parts the water and chips onto the green.

Jesus steps up to the tee and hits the ball. It too goes sailing over the fairway and lands in the water hazard. Jesus just walks on the water and chips the ball onto the green.

Next the old man steps up to the tee and hits the ball. It goes sailing over the fairway and heads for the water hazard. But just before it lands in the water a fish jumps up and catches the ball in his mouth, then an eagle swoops down and grabs the fish in its claws. The eagle flies over the green and is hit by a sudden bolt of lightning, dropping the fish. When the fish hits the ground, the ball pops out of its mouth and rolls in for a hole in one.

Jesus then turns to the old man and says, "Dad, if you don't stop showing off, we won't bring you next time!"

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BAPTISM BIRTHDAY

10/4 Bode Carlson
 10/5 Mari Gouvea
 10/8 Kathleen Paules
 10/9 Steve Love
 10/15 Bill Scheibel
 10/20 Siena Fitzpatrick
 10/21 Olive Grierson
 10/28 Mark Larsen

Bible Quiz Answers

1. C (the Bible's table of contents)
2. B (Revelation 3:7-10)
3. D (Genesis 10:6)
4. A (1 Kings 11:2-5)
5. C (Acts 11:26)
6. B (Daniel 2:5-8)

The sermon had droned on for nearly two hours. Finally, the minister stretched his arms out wide and asked, "What more can I say?" To which a teenager sitting in the back called out, " 'Amen' would be nice."

The Daily Lectionary

A guide to help you be in the Word daily

10/1	Deuteronomy 2:16-37 / Matthew 6:16-34
10/2	Deuteronomy 3:1-29 / Matthew 7:1-12
10/3	Deuteronomy 4:1-20 / Matthew 7:13-29
10/4	Deuteronomy 4:21-40 / Matthew 8:1-17
10/5	Deuteronomy 5:1-21 / Matthew 8:18-34
10/6	Deuteronomy 5:22-6:9 / Matthew 9:1-17
10/7	Deuteronomy 6:10-25 / Matthew 9:18-38
10/8	Deuteronomy 7:1-19 / Matthew 10:1-23
10/9	Deuteronomy 8:1-20 / Matthew 10:24-42
10/10	Deuteronomy 9:1-22 / Matthew 11:1-19
10/11	Deuteronomy 9:23-10:22 / Matthew 11:20-30
10/12	Deuteronomy 11:1-25 / Matthew 12:1-21
10/13	Deuteronomy 11:26-12:12 / Matthew 12:22-37
10/14	Deuteronomy 12:13-32 / Matthew 12:38-50
10/15	Deuteronomy 13:1-18 / Matthew 13:1-23
10/16	Deuteronomy 14:1-2, 22-23, 14:28-15:15 / Matthew 13:24-43
10/17	Deuteronomy 15:19-16:22 / Matthew 13:44-58
10/18	Deuteronomy 17:1-20 / Matthew 14:1-21
10/19	Deuteronomy 18:1-22 / Matthew 14:22-36
10/20	Deuteronomy 19:1-20 / Matthew 15:1-20
10/21	Deuteronomy 20:1-20 / Matthew 15:21-39
10/22	Deuteronomy 21:1-23 / Matthew 16:1-12
10/23	Deuteronomy 24:10-25:10 / Matthew 16:13-28
10/24	Deuteronomy 25:17-26:19 / Matthew 17:1-13
10/25	Deuteronomy 27:1-26 / Matthew 17:14-27
10/26	Deuteronomy 28:1-22 / Matthew 18:1-20
10/27	Deuteronomy 29:1-29 / Matthew 18:21-35
10/28	Deuteronomy 30:1-20 / Matthew 19:1-15
10/29	Deuteronomy 31:1-29 / Matthew 19:16-30
10/30	Deuteronomy 31:30-32:27 / Matthew 20:1-16
10/31	Deuteronomy 32:28-52 / Matthew 20:17-34

(Daily lectionary readings taken from LSB #299-304)

Some helpful habits for home devotions:

- *Do one reading in the morning and the other in the evening.*
- *Keep a journal or make a mental note of one thought that you would like to remember from this reading.*
- *Read and discuss the daily reading with a family member or friend.*
- *Choose one verse to commit to memory, reciting it through the day.*
- *Speak to God in prayer about something from the reading that impressed or confused you in this reading.*
- *If you miss a day or two (or three) and fall behind, don't worry and don't quit! Either set aside some time to catch up or skip those readings and move on.*
- *If you're using another reading schedule or guide, stick with it. The important thing is to be in the Word daily.*