



# HERALD

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missouri synod  
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Dear Friends at Wheat Ridge,

Your help is needed! Your input is invaluable! We need you! Here is your opportunity!

Times of trial and ordeal are also opportunities. Our culture is morally ill. We live in a country in which, for over 40 years, we have demonstrated a collective, lack-of-will, to defend the lives of unborn children. We have watched the Christian faith disintegrate and lose its social hold upon the heart and mind of the nation. We have degenerated into a society of adolescence, in which the highest value is to be sedated and left alone. Ours is a sick culture.

And so....there is great opportunity. The Church has a unique opportunity now to find its true purpose within the world.

For many a century the Church, more or less, validated the ostensibly Christian culture of the West. That culture....that epoch...has come and past. To not see that is to be blind to the times in which we live. The time of casual Christianity is rapidly waning and will not endure.

That is not all bad news. It's just...news. And it means that it is, as it were, time to get serious. Lukewarm-ness is on the wane, I think. To merely ride the current of the culture will carry one far from the harbor. It is time when people will know their hope, or – have none.

What is one to do in such times?

I don't think that what is required of us is some supernatural effort. I think it is time for consolidation. It's a time to search out what we believe; know why it matters; and hold fast. It's a time not necessarily for the exceptional exertion, but for deliberate action...to stop coasting.

What do you believe? What do you do in light of this?

It's time to take stock. It's time to stop assuming. There is a lot of good to be done. There is great service to be done in our world by the person who knows himself/herself and his/her hope. The opportunity to witness our faith, merely in our own life and positions and manner of conduct, has seldom been greater.

It's not time to despair. Our Lord has delivered us from despair. The battle has been won; not lost. It is only, that, today, so few know it. We are like troops of soldiers out in the forest, who have not heard that the peace has been won, and we are still shooting each other needlessly. Someone has to run out there and tell them to stop. It's a dangerous business. It is a task that could well get one shot himself.

And so...it's time to ask ourselves...do we believe enough in the worth of the peace that is won, to put ourselves in the line of fire? Is another's life worth me risking mine?

There is great opportunity in these days to accept the heroic mantle. The hero of this age need not be flamboyant or full of dashing panache. He need only, know himself; know his Lord; and live his life in the humble, heroic, everyday life of those that were called by their Lord – the salt of the earth.

In Christ,  
*Pastor Peck*

**STEWARDSHIP TODAY:** When we are taught that stewardship is really about our responding to and managing the gifts of the Lord for the glory of the Lord, even the smallest congregation in Synod has enough resources to carry on the ministry God has given to it. (from: StewardCAST – LCMS)

*“We want you to know brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord. 2 Cor. 8:1-3 “* The Lord enlists us to be a blessing to others. So, whenever you put that envelope in the collection plate, when you set out to serve at the local food pantry, when you sit down to help your kids with homework, think of this: The Lord has blessed you, so that you will be a blessing. (from: LCMS Stewardship Ministry)

***Everyone needs groceries:*** A source of *Income* to our church is by way of your grocery shopping. So why not let a percentage of the grocery bill benefit us? Reloadable Gift cards of this type bring financial support to the church through everyday activities. If you don't already have one for either King Soopers or Safeway or have questions about their use or purchase, please see Mel Furgeson.

## ACTS

With so many new members over the last several months, I'd like to take this opportunity to talk about what the ACTS group is. ACTS is an acronym that stands for **Adults, Children, Teens, and Seniors**. This group grew out of the young adult ministry board and has developed into a board that encompasses the entire age range of individuals throughout our congregation. This board is designed to get people together to get to know one another who may not otherwise. This board tries to provide an array of events that give opportunities to the members of our congregation to simply gather together in a friendly social setting and have fun. You do not need to be a member of the ACTS board to participate in these events. We try to encourage all members of the congregation to join us. Also, if you come to one event, it does not mean you must attend all our events.

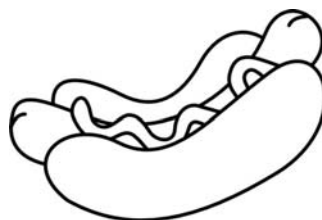
Our most notable event is our monthly *Family Game Night*. People bring games from home such as board games or card games, and a snack to share. There are a few regulars that play cribbage. Others play card games or board games. The kids enjoy it as well. We meet every third Friday at 6:30 p.m.

In September we are planning a **Bingo day** instead of Family Game Night, just to switch things up a little. This will be held in conjunction with the **Beer, Brats, and Bride** event on **Saturday, September 16, 2017** beginning at **NOON**. Please see the additional flyer (next page) for the **Bingo, Beer, Brats, and Bride** event.

ACTS has also sponsored the **Lutheran Lay Conferences** in 2015 and 2017. These are opportunities for the laity (the non-clergy) to participate in theological education beyond Bible study and church. We try to bring in speakers from other parts of the United States and present a wide array of topics as they pertain to what we as Lutherans believe. We do plan to host another conference in 2019.

Upcoming events include:

- Bingo, (root)Beer, Brats, and Bride on Saturday, September 16, 2017, starting at noon
- 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Cook Off, following church service on Oct. 29, 2017
- Family Game Night, third Friday of each month at 6:30pm (NO Family Game Night in September).
- Christmas Caroling, during the third Advent service



# **BINGO, BEER, BRATS, AND BRIDE**

Please join us on **Sat. Sept. 16**, at **noon** for **Bingo**, followed by the showing of the movie **Princess Bride** at 2 p.m. to be enjoyed with (root)**Beer** and **Brats**.

The Princess Bride is a timeless classic. If you already love this movie, or if you've never seen it, this event is for you! Beer, Brats, and Bride is an annual event "attended" by Lutherans around the world in their respective gathering places. Everyone watches the movie at the same time (third Saturday in September at 4PM Eastern time) 2 pm MST. This fun fellowship event was started by a group of Lutheran home school families in 2000 and has been growing ever since. This year will mark the 30th anniversary of this family friendly movie, so we invite you all to come and join the fun and fellowship! It is just a fun excuse to get our families together with old and new friends.

This year we are also adding BINGO to this Saturday event in lieu of Family Game Night in September. There will be prizes and fun for all ages. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!**

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## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



"Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in Me, and I in you." John 15:3

Children are ready to get back to the school routine. We will be getting ready to start our fall Christian education at WRLC. We are looking forward to an exciting new year. We pray that the Lord will bless our teachers and students as they begin to study God's Word, and that the Lord will bless all of our Bible study classes. Sunday School Rally Day is Sunday, September 10, and classes will begin Sunday, September 17, 2017. Please join us!



## SPIRITUAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITY



Every Tuesday morning before Bible study class, we will gather together in the sanctuary for Matins at 9:30 a.m.



### Jesus Christ Above All – Philippians 2:9

*“Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name”*

#### LWML MITE BOX



Throughout the decades, Lutheran women have stepped out in faith, setting goals and trusting God to move the hearts of His people to give generously to LWML to proclaim the Gospel. Mite boxes have changed in color and design over the years, but what has never changed is the dedication of freely given offerings for the purpose of reaching out to others with the Good News of Jesus Christ. Districts still retain 75% of mite offerings for their work of the LWML of over \$80,000 at that level. National mites fund over \$2 million in mission grants. This is NOT a budgeted item, but God’s blessings on all those mites.

Pick up your Mite Box on **Sunday, September 3** and:

- Put your pennies in the box at the end of each day
- Say “thank you” with an appropriate amount whenever calamity or good fortune has happened
- Empty all your loose change from your coin bowl and place in the Mite box

Bring your filled Mite Box back to church on **LWML Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>** and make some noise with those coins for missions as we dedicate our offerings for mission projects.

You can help meet these mission goals. Thank you in advance!



#### NEXT LWML MEETING

**Saturday, September, 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am**

All women of the congregation are invited to join at the church for Bible study and short business information about LWML. **SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS!**

#### FALL ZONE RALLY

The North Central Zone Lutheran Women’s Missionary League will meet on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church, 500 Drake St., Denver. A Bible study will be led by Rev. Tim Lindeman. Our Guest Speaker will be Kathy Tripcony of Lutheran Charity Comfort Dogs. There will be election of officers, a short business meeting, singing, and hugs all around! Registration is \$5.00 beginning at 8:30 a.m., and we gather together at 9:00 a.m. All ladies are invited to join us.

#### LWML Celebration on Sunday, October 1

LWML Sunday is celebrated annually in The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) churches. Come celebrate LWML Sunday. Watch for more information about the LWML and becoming involved in reaching out to others with the love of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

**Don’t forget your Mite Box!**