

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

3014 McKinley Street, NE, Minneapolis 55418

Website

www.gloriadeilcms.org

Phone

612-781-1989

Pastor

Martin Cornes

Phone

952-917-9368

Email

martin@gloriadeilcms.org

Office Administrator

Jeni Hofstede-Bryan

Email

info@gloriadeilcms.org

Pianist

Martin McGinn

Janitor

Dorothy Pempton

Caring, Sharing, Serving, Reaching



MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

May 7 Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 14 Sixth Sunday of Easter – Mother’s Day
Guest Pastor, Matthew Cephus of Royal Family

May 21 Seventh Sunday of Easter – Ascension of Our Lord

May 28 Pentecost Sunday, Joint Service GDLC with Royal Family
Guest Pastor President Woodford

The Ascension of Our Lord (May 18)



Lord Jesus, though You have ascended into heaven, we know You are at work in our lives. Thank You for uniting us with You in Baptism so that we may die to sin and walk in newness of life. Thank You for Your body and blood, given to us for the forgiveness of sins. Thank You for proclaiming Your life-giving Gospel through our pastors and for bringing our prayers before Your Father. Amen.

From the Desk of Pastor Martin Cornes, May 2023 Newsletter

I have been at Gloria Dei since January 2020, and the time has flown passed. And what a blessed and joyful time it has been so far. I was invited by the District and called by St. Matthew's on behalf of Gloria Dei as a vicar at the time to bring revitalization to a church which would otherwise have to close its doors.

My first impressions were that you folks were a wonderful, caring group and what I was called to do was to bring a new energy in. To fan the flames, so that Gloria Dei could be on fire for the Lord once again. This is what we term revitalization.

The first stage is to help the church look at itself, making sure that it is a place of joy. As people come in and as people leave out into the world, church should be a place where the joy of Jesus is evident to everyone who comes in through the doors, in our fellowship with each other, and in our worship together. And as we leave, the joy of Jesus goes with us in our living life, in our conversations, in our sharing our faith.

When I was a Youth Pastor, my mantra which I used in my ministry and in training events was that we want the children and youth to, "have fun, to come back, to learn about Jesus and to tell their friends." In that order, we want people to have fun, to have a joyful time, and if they do, they will want to come back and learn about Jesus. This is still my mantra in revitalization.

As a sense of joy came, we then focused on building up a sense of community, a family atmosphere....making sure that we are a welcoming place, whether at the door (seeing new faces coming in has been awesome!), in our fellowship times, and in our Bible Studies – which also involved changing those times away from Sunday, and also shifting the time on Wednesday, and having two sessions. They say that having around 50% of a church in Bible study is the sign of a healthy church. We are getting there Gloria Dei!

At the same time, we have increased in the number of volunteers getting involved. This is exciting, this is commitment, this is being part of a family. And this put us in the right place to draw in the fringe through social media, and engaging with the neighborhood (remember the roses, and carol singing, garage sales and the cards and outdoor service?)

We also had an intentional program of themes and passages for our sermons and studies, using *The Story* to get an over-view of the Biblical story, and then focusing in on Mark's Gospel and the life of Jesus. Moving on to the big story in the Old Testament, Moses and the Exodus. As we grew in assurance and strength in God's Word, our faith was built up, and we look with confidence and trust to God leading us into the future.

This renewed confidence in the Lord gave us the excitement to move to the next stage of being committed to mission. We continued with the ministry of collecting food items for the Salvation Army, Christmas gifts for those in need, baskets to our shut-ins, and the shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. And then we took a trip to Feed My Starving Children early on, later making sandwiches for the homeless and more recently putting together the backpacks and welcome kits for the homeless and those recently out of prison. All these projects are led by you – you folks have taken responsibility. At the same time you have embraced Pastor Matthew Cephus and Royal Family, welcomed them in as your brothers and sisters, and part of the Gloria Dei family. And as your pastor I am so thankful and proud of you all for stepping up, taking the lead, being a part of

your church and the mission to make disciples of all nations both in Northeast Minneapolis, Minnesota, and to the ends of the world.

You so aptly carry out, and will continue to carry out with a renewed passion what Paul says in *Philippians 2:2-4*, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

In the words of DCE James Seeman, who has been coordinating our recent mission items, "Delightful! Gloria Dei rocks!"



From Pastor Martin Cornes

A huge thank you to everyone - especially the coordinators, who contributed and came along to help with putting together packs for the homeless and those recently out of prison. You folks are awesome!

{4 Truck Loads 4-18-23 & 3-24-23}

56 Welcome Kits in a backpack: Bibles, socks, toothbrush/paste, soap, comb, deodorant, shaving kit, shampoo.

29 Move-In Kits: Bed set, pillow/case, towel, wash cloth, Bible.

Plus , Misc Extras, 4 Bags, and 10 boxes – 197 sheets and mattress pads, and 6 boxes of pillows.

[#ThriventActionTeams](#)

Pastor Martin Cornes
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church



<http://gloriadeilcms.org/>

info@gloriadeilcms.org

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

612-781-1989

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry | May 2023

Follow Him in Generosity

Our Savior calls us to follow Him in generosity. “For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you” (John 13:15). We cannot give our lives for the salvation of the world, of course. Praise God, that job’s already done! But with hearts full of thanksgiving for what Jesus has given us, we can follow His example of generous giving. And Jesus’ generosity is not merely an example. Our Lord also commands us to act according to our gifts: “The one who contributes, [let him give] in generosity” (Rom. 12:8).

So, when we bring offerings to the Lord, we should strive to heed His command and follow the pattern He has established for us. Jesus did not give us leftovers. He gave His best. We should not give leftovers, either, but the first and best of what He has given us. Jesus did not give as an afterthought — He gave according to the plan of salvation God established from the foundation of the world. So, when it comes to our own offerings, we should make a thoughtful plan to give generously, in proportion to the way He has blessed us. Like the Macedonian Christians, who gave according to their ability, and even beyond their ability (2 Cor. 8:3), we should honor the Lord by giving a generous portion of the income that God provides us.

We should also give freely, just as Jesus gave freely for us. There is no compulsion involved in our works of love and our offerings to the Lord. We do not give grudgingly, but willingly and cheerfully, each “as he has decided in his heart,” as the Lord says (2 Cor. 9:7). There is no New Testament ceremonial law involved here. Rather, we are free to give as generously as our Savior has given for us!

In the same way, our Lord teaches us to give generously out of our love for Him and for our neighbor. Jesus shows us that genuine love is always love “in deed” (1 John 3:18). It is love that sees our neighbor in need and gives generously to help him. It is love that hears the Word of the Lord and does what it says. If we truly love, we give generously. If we give without love, our giving is not truly following Jesus.

Finally, we follow Jesus in generosity when we support His Gospel ministry and other works of mercy. The people of Israel gave generously to construct and support the operation of the tabernacle, for that was the place where the Lord received the Old Testament sacrifices, through which He bestowed the forgiveness of sins on His people. So, they gave abundantly, so abundantly they had to be told to stop giving! (Ex. 36:5–6). In the same way, we should bring generous offerings to support the Lord’s work. We support our congregations in the preaching of His Word, Baptism and the Lord’s Supper, which bestow His gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation, and we take care of those who are poor and needy.

Our Savior calls us to follow His example in generous giving. Let us then, with thankful hearts, rededicate ourselves to following Him in generosity.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

What Not Mowing In May Could Mean For Your Lawn

No Mow May has captured the public's attention in the last few years. The idea of not mowing a lawn during the month of May in order to promote flowers for early season pollinators was first promoted by a research paper that has since been retracted. But there is still quite a bit of public interest in the initiative.

Several cities in Minnesota have scaled back mowing ordinances for the month of May and have even created lawn signs for promoting the movement.

In a recent discussion with members of the University of Minnesota bee lab, it was discussed what abstaining from mowing in May would mean for pollinators and lawns.

Although everyone fully supports promoting pollinators in the landscape, it is worth looking at what not mowing in the month of May might mean for your lawn.

Lawns in Minnesota are made up of several cool-season turfgrasses that naturally have two flushes of growth in a given year, and those typically happen in early summer and early fall. We recommend many lawn management practices around these times of year because they are essential for promoting a healthy and climate-resilient lawn.

In Minnesota, not mowing in May means the lawn is not mown for the first time until June, by which time the grass can get to 12-18 inches high. This creates many practical challenges for homeowners for mowing down to more ideal mowing heights, such as having to compost the clippings off-site. Mulch clippings as you mow to return those nutrients to your lawn. Excessive clippings may need to be removed and composted off-site, so you may need supplemental nitrogen for your lawn.

Mowing more than 1/3 of the plant's tissue in a single mowing event is known as scalping, and can harm the lawn. This can stress the lawn going into June and, if this year is anything like 2021 or 2022, record high temperatures could stress the lawn even more.

If you want to promote pollinators in your lawn for the month of May while ensuring a healthy and resilient lawn, we recommend mowing as high as your mower will allow and only as needed to avoid mowing more than 1/3 of the height. For example, if you are mowing at 4 inches, you would want to mow when the lawn gets to about 6 inches.

If you are interested in promoting pollinators in your lawn year round, we have several resources on planting and maintaining a bee lawn.



May/June Spring Offering

This year's May/Spring Offering will go directly to the Central Avenue Salvation Army food shelf, located at 2727 Central Ave NE, Minneapolis. Use your "May Mission Offering" envelopes to make a donation. Your donation will help those in our community, who need it most.

Let's help envision a future where all our neighbors and community members have access to healthy food and no one struggles with food insecurity.

Two ways to Help? Make a monetary donation (again using your "May Mission Offering" envelope) OR fill our cart by bringing in food donations! The Salvation Army is always seeking food, hygiene and monetary contributions to help restock their shelves.

Donated food items are put to immediate use, helping to feed the hungry in our neighborhood. High demand items include 100% juice, healthy cereal, canned chicken, salmon and pork, and culturally specific items like coconut milk, bamboo shoots, jasmine rice and fish sauce. Personal hygiene items such as toilet paper and toothpaste are also highly requested items.

Your efforts to help in the fight against hunger are appreciated!



The Piano Fund has come to a close. We ended the collection for the piano at the end of April and collected \$2,283.05 towards the purchase price of \$2,909.55. WOW! As a reminder, the amount collected included some recent memorials and very generous donations from all of you. Thank you!

OFFICIAL ACTS
April – None



CURRENT FINANCIAL STATUS AS OF 3/31/2023

March Total Income	\$15,357.00
March Total Expense	\$14,518.70
March Net Gain	\$838.30

YEAR TO DATE

1st Quarter Net Gain	\$3,038.77
YTD Net again	\$3,038.77

The Lutheran Witness

If you would like to receive The Lutheran Witness magazine mailed directly to your home, please let the office know before May 31. The cost is **\$23.16** (\$1.93/per issue) for 11 magazines (June/July are a combined edition), you will be invoiced through the church office. Thank you!

SPRING CLEANING

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

GDLC has set aside **Wednesday, May 10, from 9 am to 3 pm** to do spring clearing on the entire inside of the building. If your schedule permits and you have the ability, please consider joining the clearing crew. You can feel free to come and go as is convenient for you. The coffee will be on. ☺

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

If you have Thrivent insurance, you can direct your Choice Dollars to Gloria Dei. By directing your Choice Dollars through Thrivent Choice, eligible members recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach grant dollars. Simply call 1-800-Thrivent (1-800-847-4836). When asked for subject, say "Choice Dollars." When asked for a choice, press 1, then answer the next question with your birth date. A Thrivent representative will then answer, tell them you want to direct your Choice Dollars to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 3014 McKinley Street NE, Minneapolis.

Thank you all for your generous giving!



Thank You

to Daniel & Katie Beth Carlson, Karmon & Meridel Christopherson, Pastor Martin & Rachel Cornes, Chris Hadrath, Shirley Holzinger, Gwen Johnson, Tom & Patty Lyrenmann, Al, Pam & Aaron Morelli, Mary Piper, Verlayne Sather, Pat Scott, Shirley Slagle, Bev Svac and Sandy Westling for their gracious donation of blooming plants for our Easter Garden. Our altar looked amazing for the Easter service (and a few weeks beyond). Also, a special thank you to Patty Lyrenmann for making all the arrangements.



Patriots Marching Band garage sale

The annual St. Anthony Village Patriots Marching Band Garage Sale will occur Saturday, May 6, 8 am-6 pm and Sunday, May 7, 9 am-3 pm. Location: St. Anthony Village High School (lower gym), 3303 33rd Ave. NE, St. Anthony. Donations will be accepted at the same location 9 am-9 pm Wednesday, May 3 and Thursday, May 4. Signs will be posted for drop-off and help unloading your gently used clothing, furniture, sporting goods, toys and household items.

Music Entertainment by Tara B

Tara B will sing and play piano Thursday, May 18, 2-3 pm at John P. Murzyn Hall-Columbia Heights Senior Center, 530 Mill St. NE. Selections include patriotic songs and springtime favorites. Treats will be served. Sign up at 763-706-3730. Cost is \$3.

Twin Cities Women's Choir 25th Anniversary Concert

The 120-voice Twin Cities Women's Choir, which includes members from Northeast and St. Anthony, will celebrate 25 years of elevating the voices of women by presenting the concert, "Nevertheless We Persisted " on Friday, May 19, 7:30 pm at Roseville Lutheran Church, 1215 Roselawn Ave W. Tickets: Adults \$22; Seniors 65+, \$20; Child, \$12. Info: 612-333-8292 or <http://www.hervoicereproductions.org>.

Drive-Through Community Dinners

Community United Methodist Church is offering drive-through, pick-up Community Meals on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Meals are free, with a free will donation.

CUMC is located at 950 Gould Ave NE, Columbia Heights (behind the Heights Theater) OR phone 763-788-9009.

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church Drive Thru Community Dinner is Tuesday, May 9 – 5:30-6:30 pm (or until the food is gone). Free and open to all. Please spread the word!!



Friends School Plant Sale Mother's Day Weekend, Minnesota State Fair Grounds – Grandstand Building Friday, May 12, 9 am – 8 pm Saturday, May 13, 10 am – 6 pm Sunday, May 14, 10 am – 2 pm

Every May since 1989, on Mother's Day weekend, the Friends School, a kindergarten through 8th grade Quaker school in St. Paul's Midway neighborhood., has put on what has become one of the biggest fundraising plant sales in the U.S.

This three-day sale, almost entirely run by volunteers, offers more than 2,100 plant varieties at affordable prices. And every purchase helps support a great cause — the Friends School of Minnesota.

The plant sale's planners have worked hard to make sure their plants have not been treated with neonicotinoids, common pesticides that are now suspected of killing bees and other pollinators.

On Sunday, all remaining plants are 1/3 off.



THE LUTHERAN HOUR

WCCO 830 AM Radio

Heard each Sunday morning at 6:05 a.m.

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Pentecost

May 7 "Sojourn" (1 Peter 2:11-12)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Prosperity preachers promise health, wealth, and happiness--but that's not what Christians should expect.

May 14 "Reason to Hope" (1 Peter 3:15)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
A brand-new violin needs to mature through time and use. The same goes for followers of Christ.

May 21 "Responses to Suffering" (1 Peter 4:12)

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Why does God allow suffering? The answer cannot be that God is indifferent or detached from our pain.

May 28 "A Timely Invitation" (John 7:37-39)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Hector Hoppe
Jesus provides unlimited living water that refreshes us and is meant to be shared.



Main Street Living TV Program

Main Street Living airs each Sunday at 9 am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with an episode of This is the Life. The worship service will begin at 9:30 am featuring a guest pastor each week.

On Comcast this is channel 10

For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com and select the "Twin Cities" tab.

Accessible Transportation

East Side Neighborhood Services provides assisted transportation for older people living in North, Northeast, Southeast Minneapolis and St. Anthony. Open for vaccine, medical, social need, and shopping trips. They are also available for small group outings (five or fewer). Cost is based on a sliding fee scale.

Available: Monday through Friday, 8am - 4pm

Call: Reservation line 612-787-4012

Time of Grace

Time of Grace connects people to God's grace—his love, glory, and power—so they realize the temporary things of life don't satisfy. However, through Jesus we have access to the eternal God—right now and forever.

Pastor Mike Novotny has served God's people in full-time ministry since 2007 in Madison and, most recently, at The CORE in Appleton, Wisconsin. He also serves as the lead speaker for Time of Grace, where he shares the good news about Jesus through television, print, and online platforms.

Sundays KARE (NBC 11) 10:30 AM

Subscribe to Time of Grace to be delivered to your email inbox daily. It's easy to subscribe to resources that'll keep you rooted in Jesus. Just select which types of resources you would like to receive and they will be sent right to your inbox

www.timeofgrace.org/subscribe

Senior Food Shelf Offering Home Deliveries

East Side's Senior Food Shelf is offering no-contact home deliveries for Hennepin County adults over 55 who are unable to visit the Senior Food Shelf. We'll provide a package that includes fresh fruits, vegetables, dairy, frozen meat and other non-perishable food items.



The Senior Food Shelf is open Mon - Fri from 9:30 AM-1 PM at 1801 Central Avenue NE, with practices in place to provide food assistance that are safe and meet seniors' unique nutritional needs. Hennepin County residents over the age of 55 with incomes at or below the 300% federal poverty guidelines are eligible to receive food assistance (for a family of one the upper limit is \$3190 per month; family of two is \$4310 a month). Eligible seniors and members of their household are each eligible to receive one package of 25-35 pounds of food each month.

Contact the Senior Food Shelf to see if you are eligible. Please call (612)788-9521 to learn more and to schedule an appointment at the food shelf or to receive a delivery. Leave a message if they are unavailable, and they will call you back.

For more info:

<https://www.esns.org/metrofoodprograms>

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Church Office Closed 7 pm AlAnon	2 5 – 8:30 pm Living Word Bible Study Groups	3 2 pm OR 5:30 pm Service w/HC and Bible Study Jesus after His resurrection	4 6 – 7:30 pm Royal Family Bible Study	5 Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed Dorothy Norback Memorial Service 10 am Visitation 11 am Service 5 – 7 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	6 8:30 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 5 – 6 pm Royal Family Praise & Worship Rehearsal 6 – 8:30 pm Living Word Prayer Night
7 5th Sunday of Easter 10 am Worship 10:30 am Royal Family Sunday School 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	8 Church Office Closed 7 pm AlAnon	9 5 – 8:30 pm Living Word Bible Study Group	10 9 am – 3 pm Indoor Spring Cleaning (volunteers needed) NO 2 pm OR 5:30 pm Service and/or Bible Study	11 6 – 7:30 pm Royal Family Bible Study	12 Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed 5 – 7 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	13 8:30 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 5 – 6 pm Royal Family Praise & Worship Rehearsal 6 – 8:30 pm Living Word Prayer Night
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> Pastor Martin @ Pastor's Conference May 7 - 9 </div>						
14 6th Sunday of Easter MOTHERS' DAY Guest Pastor Matthew Cephus 10 am Worship 10:30 am Royal Family Sunday School 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	15 Church Office Closed 5 pm Council Mtg 7 pm AlAnon	16 5 – 8:30 pm Living Word Bible Study Groups	17 NO 2 pm OR 5:30 pm Service and/or Bible Study	18 6 – 7:30 pm Royal Family Bible Study <i>The Ascension of Our Lord</i>	19 Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed 5 – 7 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	20 8:30 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 1 pm Marty Brinkman Funeral 5 – 6 pm Royal Family Praise & Worship Rehearsal 6 – 8:30 pm Living Word Prayer Night
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;"> Pastor Martin vacation in India May 10 - 19 </div>						
21 7th Sunday of Easter Ascension of Our Lord 10 am Worship 10:30 am Royal Family Sunday School 11:45 am Royal Family Worship 6 pm NA	22 Church Office Closed 7 pm AlAnon	23 5 – 8:30 pm Living Word Bible Study Groups	24 2 pm OR 5:30 pm Service w/HC and Bible Study	25 6 – 7:30 pm Royal Family Bible Study	26 Pastor's Day Off Church Office Closed 5 – 7 pm Living Word Music Rehearsal	27 8:30 am Living Word Worship & Fellowship 4-5 pm Living Word Board Mtg 5 – 6 pm Royal Family Praise & Worship Rehearsal 6 – 8:30 pm Living Word Prayer Night
28 Pentecost Sunday Guest Pastor Pres. Woodford Potluck Luncheon following service 10 am Joint Worship 10:30 am Royal Family Sunday School 6 pm NA	29 <u>MEMORIAL DAY</u> Church Office Closed 7 pm AlAnon	30 5 – 8:30 pm Living Word Bible Study Groups	31 2 pm OR 5:30 pm Service w/HC and Bible Study			



May Birthdays		May Anniversaries	
3 rd	Kevin Morelli	3 rd	Mike & Deb Panning
7 th	Mary Lenzen	18 th	Tom & Patty Lyrenmann
11 th	Karmon Christopherson, Tom Lyrenmann	26 th	Larry Schlais & Wenda Schwoch
19 th	Wade Billmeyer		
20 th	Noah Kruse		
23 rd	Ashlee Kruse, Zachary Kruse		
24 th	Cindy Martinez		
29 th	Andrew Panning, Pat Scott		
31 st	Susan Hansen		

MAY SERVANTS

Elder: Karmon Christopherson

Altar Care

7	OPEN
14	OPEN
21	OPEN
28	OPEN


Ushers

7	OPEN
14	OPEN
21	OPEN
28	OPEN

Counters

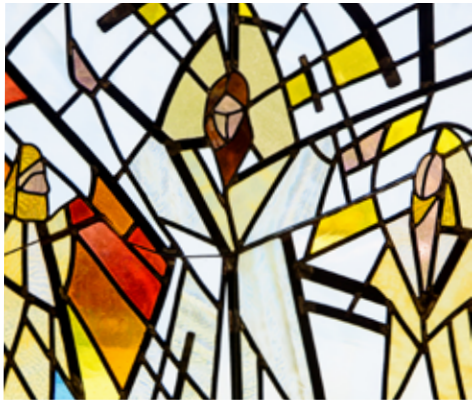
7	Sandy Westling and Tom Harris
14	Al, Pam and Aaron Morelli
21	Shirley Holzinger & Verlayne Sather
28	Dale Raschke and Sandy Westling

Candles

7	Larry and Wenda – Theodore Carl Ernst “Ted” Schwoch, Jr. (12/27/1927 – 2/12/2011)
14	Larry and Wenda – Sally Ann (Ruby) Miller Schwoch  (1/29/1936 – 1/14/1997)
21	Larry and Wenda – Ellen M (Reeder) Recore Schwoch (6/08/1932 – 8/6/2008)
28	Larry and Wenda – Elsa A. (Schwoch) Schwoch (2/13/1897 – 12/22/1963) & Theodore H. Schwoch, Sr. (3/08/1897 – 3/07/1978)

Flowers

7	Open
14	Open
21	Open
28	Open



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Pray For Us Calendar

LCMS MISSIONARIES ON HOME SERVICE — MAY 1-15

Every other year, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's (LCMS) international missionaries spend approximately two months in the United States on "home service." During this time, they reconnect with the individuals, congregations and groups who support their mission work. Home service also gives them a period of rest and renewal and the chance to spend time with their families.

Remember God's work through missionaries on home service as you pray:

- 1.** for the LCMS missionary families who will be on home service. Ask the Lord to keep them safe during their travels.
- 2.** for God's hand to guide and bless the details and logistical arrangements that are a necessary part of missionary home service, such as transportation and housing.
- 3.** for missionary families to be able to visit as many congregations and other groups as possible, while managing their limited time in the United States.

- 4.** for the Lord to guide missionaries as they prepare their presentations. Ask Him to help them to share their stories and ministry news with those who have so faithfully supported their ministry.
- 5.** for missionary families. Pray that God would give emotional, physical and spiritual strength as they travel, share with supporters and meet new friends.
- 6.** for missionary children. Pray that God would provide them with the opportunity to know that they are a vital part of their family's ministry.
- 7.** that many congregations all over the United States would

welcome missionaries into their churches for mission presentations, Sunday school, children's messages, celebration luncheons, Bible studies and other activities.

- 8.** that congregations and other groups would experience a revitalized interest in praying for missionaries and supporting their work, especially after visiting with them face-to-face and hearing about what God is accomplishing through them.
- 9.** that as missionaries share their experiences, the listeners would consider serving as a missionary themselves — in a short-term, long-term or career capacity.
- 10.** for the families of visiting missionaries, that they would enjoy their time together and mutually encourage one another.
- 11.** for God to comfort and sustain the missionaries who are not able to see family and friends in the United States this year. May the

Holy Spirit comfort them with His presence and assurance of God's calling to serve far from home.

- 12.** that missionaries would have an easy transition back to life in the United States — even for a short time during home service — with minimal effects of reverse culture shock.
- 13.** that the Lord would raise up supporters for missionaries who are struggling to finding the resources necessary for their ministry.
- 14.** with thanksgiving for the many forms of support and the joys the Lord provides to missionary families as they serve Him.
- 15.** that the conversations started during home service would continue long after the missionary has returned to the mission field. Pray that through ongoing communication, missionaries and supporters would encourage one another.

PARTNER CHURCHES — MAY 16-31

The LCMS has 38 partner churches around the world. A partner church is a church body with which the LCMS has full altar and pulpit fellowship. Many LCMS partner churches also are members of the International Lutheran Council, a worldwide association of confessional Lutheran church bodies. Some LCMS partner churches came into existence through LCMS-supported mission efforts, while others have historic roots that pre-date the LCMS or that are sourced in the mission efforts of other Lutheran church bodies.

Remember God's work in His Church as you pray:

16. *for all LCMS partner churches, some of which only have a handful of congregations.* Pray that they would never feel alone in their service to Christ and His Church.

17. *for LCMS partner churches in Latin America and the Caribbean.* Pray that God's Word would continue to spread throughout these countries to bring the Body of Christ together in fellowship and to be witnesses to His love.

18. *for LCMS partner churches in Africa.* Pray that God would strengthen Lutheran Christians in this region to carry out their work for His name's sake.

19. *for LCMS partner churches in Asia,* that God would guide and strengthen Lutheran Christians

in this region, especially in areas where it is difficult or dangerous to do His work.

20. *for LCMS partner churches in Eurasia.* Pray that God would continue to use His Word as a light to those in darkness and as a stronghold for the life of His Church.

21. *with thanksgiving for all the missionaries who serve partner churches,* that they would remain faithful in their tasks and be witnesses to the Gospel through acts of mercy.

22. *for those who serve in leadership positions in LCMS partner churches around the world,* as they guide, nurture and shepherd their people.

23. *for the laypeople of LCMS partner churches around the world,* that they would be fulfilled by God's Word and Sacraments.



24. *that God would continue to raise up faithful servants for His Church in locations around the world.*

25. *for the Lutheran church bodies around the world interested in fellowship with the LCMS.* Pray that God would guide the consideration process according to His will.

26. *in thanksgiving for those who pray continually for those who serve where spreading God's Word is difficult or dangerous.*

27. *for Lutheran churches around the world that are dealing with strife between their members.* Pray that the Lord would guide them to a peaceful resolution that would strengthen their witness to the community.

28. *for the Lutheran churches in Eurasia as they seek to minister*

to the refugees in their midst. Pray for safety for both the church workers and the refugees.

29. *for all projects currently going on in LCMS partner church bodies,* that each one would have the volunteers and resources necessary to carry out the work of the church as it shows mercy and provides physical and spiritual care for people around the world.

30. *for safe travel between and within countries in each world region.* Pray that pastors, missionaries, medical teams and all who travel to assist partner churches would be kept safe and healthy, that the Gospel might be proclaimed to the far corners of creation.

31. *for all those still living in darkness,* that the Gospel will be their light and life.

Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at lcms.org/prayforus or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.

