

## Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

3014 McKinley Street, NE, Minneapolis 55418

Website [www.gloriadeilcms.org](http://www.gloriadeilcms.org)

Phone 612-781-1989

Pastor Dean W. Gade

Home Phone 612-869-5150

Email [gloriadei@usfamily.net](mailto:gloriadei@usfamily.net)

Office Administrator Jeni Hofstede-Bryan

Email [info@gloriadeilcms.org](mailto:info@gloriadeilcms.org)

Organist Angela Huizel

Ministers: All members of Gloria Dei

Caring, Sharing, Serving, Reaching Reaching



## MAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**May 6** *The Ascension of Our Lord w/HC "Not Left Behind" Acts 1:1-11*  
*Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 47 Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53*

**May 13** *7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter "Jesus Praying For the Spirit"*  
*Acts 1:12-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-15 John 17:11b-19*

**May 20** *The Day of Pentecost w/HC . "Renewing Strength" .Isaiah. 40:31*  
*Ezek. 37:1-14 Psalm 139:1-12(13-16) Acts 2:1-21 John 15-26-27; 16:4b-15*

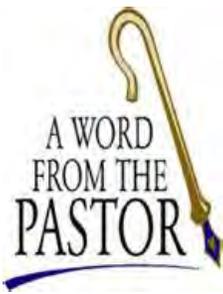
**May 27** *The Holy Trinity "An Incomprehensible Truth"*  
*Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 29 Acts 2:14a, 22-36 John 3:1-17*

## Ascension Day - May 13<sup>th</sup>

On Ascension Day, the Church does not merely commemorate an historical event in the life of Christ. On this day, the Church celebrates Christ's physical departure from the world and His glorification with God the Father. For 40 days after His Resurrection, Jesus remained on earth. He appeared to His disciples at various times and places. By eating and drinking with His followers and conversing with them about the Kingdom of God, Jesus assured them that He was truly alive in His risen and glorified Body.

On the 40th day after the Resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples and led them out of Jerusalem to the Mount of Olives. He lifted up His hands, blessed them and as His disciples were looking on, He was lifted up - or "ascended" - and a cloud took Him out of sight. While they were looking up, two angels in white robes appeared and said to them: "*Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus, Who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen Him go there.*" The Ascension is, therefore, a sign and symbol of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming. Christ will return to the earth in the same manner as He left it.

When the risen Lord returns again in glory, God's will for mankind will be fulfilled.



# Honoring our Mother

The month of May is one that includes a day when we as a nation honor our mothers. Truly it is good and worthy to honor mothers, for God has given them a high calling in this world -- they who participate in giving life and who nurture and raise their children in the ways and love of the Lord. Nothing is more important in the world than that responsibility, and so it is good for us to give thanks and honor to our mothers. But as I reflected upon that, it occurred to me that we could actually take the time to also honor another mother of ours, so to speak, the Church.

I know that may sound strange, but think about it. The Church, the Body of Christ is often referred to in Scripture as the Bride of Christ. And it is through this Bride that Christ has given birth to us, the believers. Do you remember from your catechism where the church is to be found? It is where the Means of Grace are found, the Word and the Sacraments. Where the Gospel of Christ is found and proclaimed and offered in Word and Sacrament, that is where believers are found and new believers are made, or more accurately are born again (and nurtured). It is through the means of Grace, the Word and Sacraments that God the Father creates new believers, gives new birth to His Children. And since those means of Grace are found in the Church, in that sense the church could be considered our mother. For through her, through the means of Grace, God gives us new birth.

And there are some wonderful parallels with this: Just as we had nothing to do with our birth into this world, so too did we have nothing to do with our rebirth in Christ! We by nature are fallen and completely spiritually dead and can do nothing make ourselves come alive spiritually. Thinking of and being thankful of how our mothers gave us birth, and we had nothing to do with it, we can be reminded to also give honor and thanks to God the Father that He brought us to rebirth through the means of grace in our spiritual "mother" the church.

Mothers also nurture and protect us. (NOT an easy job. As Barbara Johnson put it: "*If it was going to be easy to raise kids, it never would have started with something called labor.*") Similarly, our church "mother" also provides a place of protection, guidance and nurturing for us. Here we gather around the Means of Grace and the real presence of our Lord where He can build up and strengthen our faith to be able to withstand the assaults of the enemy (satan, world, flesh) around us, as well as receive instruction from the Word to know how to respond to the Love of our Lord with a God-pleasing life.

## **How do we then respond to such gifts and love?**

**With just a Mother's Day card, flower, gift or maybe a phone call, or a visit on this one day?**

Ought not every day be Mother's Day in the lives of all Christian-minded men and women? How undeserving and ungrateful children are they who would honor their mothers with tributes of flowers or other gifts on one day and by their misconduct disgrace or dishonor her on other days of the year! I would imagine Christian mothers would more gladly be honored by affectionate love and respect in their homes every day than to be placed on a lofty pedestal of praise and adoration once a year.

(Though such adoration and praise wouldn't hurt on occasion as well!)

Just out of sheer appreciation for the blessings that God has given us here (new life in Baptism, the Word proclaimed through which He sustains and nurtures our faith), in thanksgiving and need for those alone should we keep coming here, and not just on special occasions. Indeed, we must come here, not only because our Father has commanded it, but because of the continual blessings and nurturing and strength and care we receive here in our "mother's" arms of Word and Sacrament.

And, just as it is a good and loving thing to do a few chores and projects around our mother's house, so too is it a good and loving thing to tend to some of the needs here in our congregation. There have been and will be requests for help – answer them and join in that loving service. There are requests for offices to be filled – answer and fill them! Take some time and see what "projects" or chores you might wish to help on – for the mutual care and love of your brothers and sisters in Christ, all in response to the love first shown to you by your God through this congregation.

As we use this time of the year to show our deep appreciation and love of our mothers, and to continue to do so every day, let us also use this as an occasion to show our love for our spiritual "mother", the Bride of Christ, the Church, and all that God our Father works through her on our behalf! Pastor

# Stewardship Newsletter: May 2018

St. Paul teaches, *"Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches"* (Galatians 6:6).

And again, he says, *"Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel"* (1 Corinthians 9:13–14).

In other words, ministers of the gospel are supported by the offerings of those who are served by them. And this is how the Church lives even now. It is standard practice. But this deserves closer examination. For it instructs us not *just* that we are to give but also *what* we are to give. And it does so with four little words: *"In the same way ... "*

St. Paul is building his case for supporting the preachers of the Gospel with the sacrificial giving of individual members on the example of the Old Testament people who supported the Levites with their offerings and sacrifices.

We're to support the Gospel ministry *"in the same way."* But how did the Old Testament people support the Levites? Moses records this: *"You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always"* (Deuteronomy 14:22–23).

The Levites were supported by the tithe, 10 percent of all the yearly yield of that which was harvested. Does that seem like a lot? Does it surprise you that St. Paul doesn't instruct us that we are to support the New Testament Gospel ministry with a joyful and giving heart.

If it does, ask yourself: is the Church's job in the New Testament bigger or smaller than the Levites' job in the Old Testament? Back then there was one Temple, and the ministry was almost exclusively located in one nation among the descendants of Abraham.

Jesus calls us to teach and baptize all nations (Matt. 28). And there are churches and ministries all around the world. How could we support this new Gospel ministry with anything less than the Israelites supported the Old Testament ministry?

Of course, we are free to give more, for we have received more than those in the Old Testament. We have received the fullness of God's revelation, the fullness of His salvation, the fulfillment of everything that God promised to do. For we have received Christ, God's own Son, in the flesh, who took upon Himself our sins and in exchange gave us His righteousness. The Father claimed us as His own in Holy Baptism.

He gathers us together in the place where His name dwells to feast on the first fruits of the resurrection, the risen and living body and blood of His Son, our Lord, Jesus. He reminds us that we are His, that all things are ours because we belong to Him. He blesses us here in time with physical and spiritual gifts.

In the same way, and in response to his fatherly divine goodness and mercy, we gladly give to those who proclaim to us *"the excellencies of Him who called us out of darkness and into His marvelous light. For once we were not a people, but now we are God's people; once we had not received mercy, but now we have indeed."* (1 Peter 2:9–10).

# THE LUTHERAN HOUR

WCCO 830 AM Radio

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

**May 6** (John 15:9-17)  
**"Love One Another as I Have Loved You"**  
 Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer  
 Jesus calls His followers to be different as they deal with difficult people

**May 13** "Keep Them" (John 17:14-17)  
 Speaker Emeritus Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus  
 There are times Christians might readily wish the Lord would airlift them out of this world. Because we have some work to do, the Lord Jesus prays we be kept safe. So, how's that working for you?

**May 20** (Acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27)  
**"Functional Atheist No More!"**  
 Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer  
 Christians like to think of themselves as following the first disciples. That's uncomfortably true. The first disciples had trouble believing the promises of Jesus for their daily lives. Too often we do too. On Pentecost the Spirit of the risen Lord Jesus gave the first disciples faith like they had never had before. Today the same Spirit is ready to do the same for us.

**May 27** "Impossible" (Acts 2:22-24)  
 Speaker Emeritus Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus  
 Can death hold us? Experience says, "Yes!" the Apostle Peter says, "No." Today's sermon talks about making possible that which can't happen.

## Time For Grace

<b>Sundays</b>	KMSP FOX 9	6:30 am
	Channel 23 Cable 8	9:00 am
	DIRECTV 338	5:30 am
<b>Thursdays</b>	DISH Network 188	5:30 am
	DIRECTV 372	3:30 pm
	DISH Network 260	3:30 pm

[www.timeofgrace.org](http://www.timeofgrace.org)

**Straight talk about God's word and real hope for this life. A strong gospel message delivered in an informal Bible study style.**

Pastor Mark Jeske,  
 St. Marcus Lutheran Church Milwaukee, W

## OFFICIAL ACTS

**April – None**

**May 7<sup>th</sup>** Memorial service  
 for Rosalina Ehnes  
 @10:30 am



Your Beliefs  
 don't make you a  
 better person;  
 your Behavior  
 does...

## FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY

Looking for volunteers to host a Sunday to serve treats during our regularly scheduled



**Fellowship**

fellowship time. Scheduled for the second Sunday of each month after church service. **Available months are July 8, September 9,**

**October 14, November 11 and December 9.**

It's easy as 1, 2, 3. . . 1, Grab a friend and sign up; 2, bring treats (+ a beverage, plates, forks and napkins); 3, enjoy the smiling faces. It's simple to do and everyone enjoys the treats and the time spent together. Sign-up sheets are located on the entryway bulletin board. If you have questions, check in with Verlayne or the office.

## CURRENT FINANCIAL STATUS as of March 31, 2018

March Total Income	\$14,341.64
March Total Expense	\$15,245.76
March Net Loss	\$904.12

## YEAR TO DATE

1st Quarter Net Loss	\$11,144.24
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## **THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS**

If you have Thrivent insurance, don't forget to 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 St. NE.

*Thank you all for your generous giving!*

## **KOA/50+**

**Thursday, May 17th at noon.** The theme will be **Mothers and Daughters**. We will talk about how our mothers lived and how different it is for us. Verlayne will make lunch with a menu of Lasagna, Salad Bar, Garlic Bread and Blueberry Dessert. If you need a ride, please let Verlayne know. Bring a friend if you like. You can sign up at our April meeting OR on the bulletin board.

## **Sparkle & Shine Salad Luncheon/Quilt Auction** **Saturday, May 12**

Mark your calendar for the annual "Sparkle & Shine" Salad Luncheon/Quilt Auction at Redemption Lutheran Church in Bloomington. This is a fundraiser for Trinity First Lutheran School in Minneapolis. Join us for this great fellowship event that supports Christian education. If you would like to participate by donating a quilt, silent auction item or a salad, please call Michelle Borchardt at 952-884-9719.

Thank you for your support!



## **FARE FOR ALL** *Food that makes cents*

### **MINNEAPOLIS LOCATION:**

Laborers Local 563, 901 14<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Fridays 11 am – 1 pm | May 11, June 22  
Fridley Community Center,  
6085 7th Street NE  
Thursdays 10 am – 12 pm | May 3, June 7

Their food packages are sold once a month, offering fresh produce and quality meats.. All the locations are cash and carry—there is no need to register in advance.



### **Altar Care, Flowers and Candles**

If you would like to help beautify the altar area at Gloria Dei, flowers can be purchased for \$20/bouquet + \$10 delivery fee (or you can pick them up). Candles are \$6. You can also sign up for a month of Altar Care (**July, August and September are still open**). All sign-up sheets are located in the entryway of the Church.



In addition to delivering meals to seniors and those with disabilities, Eastside Meals on Wheels also delivers frozen meals once a week for those of our clients that can't be home every day at delivery time.

If you or someone you know might benefit now or in the future in receiving meals, or if you are interested in volunteering, please contact (612) 277-2529 or [info@eastsidemeals.org](mailto:info@eastsidemeals.org)

*Eastside Meals on Wheels - 1510 33rd Ave. NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418*

## STREET REPAIR UPDATE

Our assessment for this project is \$18,073.72. Since work was not completed last summer, our assessment was postponed one year. Church Council has decided to pay the assessment in full in November or December to avoid interest charges. This is a large amount for our small congregation. In April 2017, we set up a "Street Repair Fund" to start saving for these repairs. Thanks to a generous contribution by TLWC (Hmong Congregation) of \$1,000, our account balance is now \$2,375. If anyone would like to contribute to this fund, please mark your envelope **Street Repair**. Whatever we can save will help reduce what will have to come out of our general fund.

Thank you in advance for your help!

### Vital Fitness

**Tuesdays, 10:00-11:00am**

Drop by for East Side's Vital Fitness group! The group meets weekly in East Side's gymnasium for a variety of exercises that improve balance, strength, and coordination. There is no cost to participate. Contact Gloria with any questions at 612-787-4076.



*Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind.*  
*Dr. Seuss*

### The Lutheran Witness

*If you would like to receive The Lutheran Witness magazine mailed to your home, please let the office know. The cost is \$19.70 for 11 magazines (June/July are a combined edition). IF you are already receiving it, please confirm you would like to continue. Thank you!*

WEED IT AND REAP N.E.  
Lend a Hand and Help Pick  
Up NE!

Clean-up day Volunteers  
Needed! May 3-5, 2018

For more information  
contact the Northeast  
Chamber office at **612-370-9131 OR**  
**[www.mplschamber.com/weedit](http://www.mplschamber.com/weedit)**



### Plant and Rummage Sale

Thursday and Friday, May 10 – 11, 9am – 5 pm and Saturday, May 12, 9 am – 1 pm. Bedding and hanging plants and perennials available. Coffee and food available at low cost. Community United Methodist Church of Columbia Heights, 950 Gould Ave NE.

### Marcy Plant Sale and Fundraiser

Marcy Open School, 415 4<sup>th</sup> Ave SE will hold their annual Plant Sale and School Fundraiser on Friday, May 11, noon – 7 pm and Saturday, May 12, 9 am – 2 pm. They offer annuals, herbs, vegetables and hanging baskets. Master Gardeners will also be on-site to answer gardening questions. View selections and info at [facebook.com/marcyplantsale](https://facebook.com/marcyplantsale) OR [marcyplantsale.com](http://marcyplantsale.com).



Mother, Daughter, Sister, Friend Tea Luncheon | Saturday, May 5, 1 – 3 pm

Grace Lutheran Church, 1500 6<sup>th</sup> St NE. Ladies \$15, Young Ladies 5 – 12 yrs \$7 and Little Ladies under 5 yrs no charge. Marketplace opens at 12:30 before and after tea. Reservations required. For tickets call Jennifer 612-781-1117. Hats strongly encouraged. NO jeans, please.

# May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 3014 McKinley St.NE, Mpls., MN 55418 612-781-1989 voice 612-789-9727 fax <a href="http://www.gloriadeilcms.org">www.gloriadeilcms.org</a> info@gloriadeilcms.org		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 10 am Bible Study  6:30 pm TLWCC Bible Study	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>  5 pm TLWCC Music Practice 8 pm AA/A1Anon	<b>5</b> 10 am TLWCC Worship  6 pm TLWCC Worship & Fellowship
<b>6</b> <b>Ascension of Our Lord</b> 8:45 am Education Hour 10 am Worship w/HC 11 am Fellowship  6 pm NA	<b>7</b>  6:30 pm A1Anon 1 8 pm AA/A1Anon 2	<b>8</b>  <b>6:30 pm</b> <b>All Boards</b>	<b>9</b> 10 am Bible Study  6:30 pm TLWCC Bible Study	<b>10</b> <b>Ascension Day</b>  	<b>11</b> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>  5 pm TLWCC Music Practice 8 pm AA/A1Anon	<b>12</b> 10 am TLWCC Worship  6 pm TLWCC Worship & Fellowship
<b>13</b> <b>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> 8:45 am Education Hour 10 am Worship 6 pm NA <b>MOTHERS' DAY</b>	<b>14</b>  <b>2 pm Counter's</b> <b>Training</b> 6:30 pm A1Anon 1 8 pm AA/A1Anon 2	<b>15</b>  <b>6:30 pm</b> <b>Council</b>	<b>16</b> 10 am Bible Study  6:30 pm TLWCC Bible Study	<b>17</b> <b>KOA+</b> <b>12 Noon</b> <b>"Mother's &amp;</b> <b>Daughter's"</b> <b>Lasagna</b> <b>Lunch</b>	<b>18</b> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>  5 pm TLWCC Music Practice 8 pm AA/A1Anon	<b>19</b> 10 am TLWCC Worship  6 pm TLWCC Worship & Fellowship
<b>20</b> <b>The Day of Pentecost</b> <b>Armed Forces Sunday</b> 8:45 am Education Hour 10 am Worship w/HC  4 – 6 pm NA Pot Blessings 6 pm NA <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>21</b>  6:30 pm A1Anon 1 8 pm AA/A1Anon 2	<b>22</b>  <b>9 am – 1 pm</b> <b>Pastor's</b> <b>Conference</b>	<b>23</b> 10 am Bible Study  6:30 pm TLWCC Bible Study	<b>24</b>  	<b>25</b> <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>  5 pm TLWCC Music Practice 8 pm AA/A1Anon	<b>26</b> 10 am TLWCC Worship  6 pm TLWCC Worship & Fellowship
<b>27</b> <b>The Holy Trinity</b> 8:45 am Education Hour 10 am Worship  6 pm NA	<b>28</b> <b>Memorial Day</b>   <b>Office Closed</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 10 am Bible Study  6:30 pm TLWCC Bible Study	<b>31</b>	AA – Alcoholics Anonymous NA – Narcotics Anonymous A1Anon 1 – Beginners Group A1Anon 2 – Families of alcoholics TLWCC – Trinity Living Word of Christ A1Anon – Friday group	



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|------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | Bill Woll                            | 19 <sup>th</sup> | Wade Billmeyer            |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Kevin Morelli, Sandra Bauer          | 24 <sup>th</sup> | Cindy Martinez            |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Mary Lenzen                          | 27 <sup>th</sup> | Granice Cloutier          |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Sophie Edwards                       | 26 <sup>th</sup> | Linh Phan                 |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> | Karmon Christopherson, Tom Lyrenmann | 29 <sup>th</sup> | Andrew Panning, Pat Scott |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | Muriel Lindstrom                     | 31 <sup>st</sup> | Susan Hansen              |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> | Janelle Tousignant                   |                  |                           |



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|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Mike & Deb Panning            |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> | Tom & Patty Lyrenmann         |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> | Larry Schlais & Wenda Schwoch |

<b>MAY SERVANTS</b>	
<b>Elder: Karmon Christopherson</b>	
<b>Altar Care: Verlayne Sather</b>	
<b>May 6<sup>TH</sup> Fellowship: Lori Sharbono &amp; Verlayne Sather</b>	
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>Counters</b>
<b>6 Morellis</b> <b>13 Wade Billmeyer and Dale Raschke</b> <b>20 Morellis</b> <b>27 Verlayne Sather</b>	<b>6 Derald &amp; Chris Hadrath</b> <b>13 Verlayne Sather and Bev Svac</b> <b>20 Derald &amp; Chris Hadrath</b> <b>27 Pat Scott and Shirley Holzinger</b>
<b>Candles</b>	<b>Flowers</b>
<b>6</b> <b>13</b> <b>20</b> <b>27 Lil Troiden –</b> <b>In Honor of Grandson, Andrew</b> 	<b>6</b> <b>13</b> <b>20</b> <b>27</b> 
<b>If you sign up for flowers or candles after the newsletter is published, be sure to let the office know. We want to make sure that flowers are ordered and you are properly acknowledged in the bulletin notes. Thanks!</b>	

Altar Care is still needed for July, August and September



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 in 2018. 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.

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