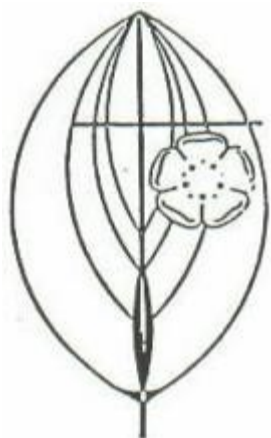


NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH



Messiah Messenger

407 Nassau Street at Cedar Lane

Email: lcmaprinceton@gmail.com

www.princetonlutheranchurch.org

www.facebook.com/MessiahChurchPrinceton

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

THE REV. DR.
MARTIN K. ERHARDT
PASTOR

THE REV. DR.
JOHN MARK GOERSS
PASTOR EMERITUS

JANICE HOFREITER
ORGANIST AND
CHOIR DIRECTOR

KATHERINE ELLIS
OFFICE ASSISTANT

It's Good to See You

This past month, I attended both the March for Life in Washington, DC (Jan. 18), and the Rally for Life in Trenton (Jan. 22). It's easy to get the idea that these events are only about abortion. Certainly abortion is a central issue, though euthanasia and suicide are becoming increasingly prominent. But to say that those are sad and terrible things, we must believe that human life is a marvelous and good thing, even when it is unwanted, inconvenient, or painful. Christians understand life to be a good gift from God, despite its hardships and our sinful nature. As you've heard me say before, life is difficult but not dreadful.

This past Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, I preached about how the Incarnation dignifies human life. Instead of ridding the world of sin by destroying us, God took our humanity on himself in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, to live with us and redeem us, taking our sin on himself and giving us God's own righteousness in exchange. As a parent cherishes even a wayward child, so God cherishes us and desires that we cherish one another.



continued on the next page

The symbol in the upper left corner expresses by means of candle and messianic rose the worship of the Messiah and the Truth of Christ. The cross signifies His central deed and the five crosses in the rose the sacred wounds.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK CONTINUED

God's creation and redemption of us show us the basic shape of what it means to be pro-life. It certainly involves opposing elective abortion, but it doesn't start there. One of the most basic pro-life steps we can take is to be glad to see our neighbors, to be pleased that they exist. We may think that is too obvious a thing to need saying, but it isn't. It's easy to let our love for God and for one another be displaced and disordered by the love of other things, even good things like nature, politics, sports, or travel. To maintain a pro-life orientation requires vigilance and exercise. We need to be reminded of truth that we don't always want to hear and can't always bring ourselves to believe.



The gospel of life may seem incredible and counterintuitive, but it is good news that changes us and how we live. It changes how we see one another – our family members, our neighbors, people we know from work, and our fellow parishioners. Even strangers. The gospel prompts us to be glad to see one another, to pay attention to, encourage, and care for one another, and to affirm and support human life as a good gift of God. It's all part of the pro-life pattern God models for us in creating us, redeeming us, and giving us everlasting life. I try to imprint and reinforce this pro-life pattern in my own life by greeting people with, "It's good to see you!" That that's true is more important than how we feel about someone at a particular moment. It's the kind of greeting we can be glad to be changed by as we use it.

Thanking God for you,

Pastor Erhardt



Visit our website to listen to audio recordings of Sunday Sermons.
<http://www.princetonlutheranchurch.org/services.html>

CHURCH CALENDAR

LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

Ash Wednesday, March 6

7:00 PM Holy Communion
with Imposition of Ashes

Subsequent Wednesdays in Lent

March 13—April 10

6:00 PM Soup and Salad Supper
7:00 PM Evening Prayer (LBW p. 142)

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY TABLE TALKS

Thursday, February 7:

**"All I Really Need to Know
I Learned from Evangelicalism"**

Led by Justin Hylden

All discussions are scheduled for
Thursdays 6:30 - 8 :00 pm in Room
210 of Murray-Dodge Hall,
Princeton University.

Dinner is included.

After 5:00 pm on weekdays, free
parking is available in the university
lot on William St., between
Washington Rd. and Charlton St.

All are welcome!
Please join us and invite friends.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, February 7, 6:30 pm

LCM Table Talk:

*"All I Really Need to Know
I Learned from Evangelicalism"*



Saturday, February 9, 9 am - 2 pm

*"On the Road Again with Jesus:
Challenges of Being Christian in the
21st century"*

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Princeton Junction, NJ



Friday, February 15, 6 pm

International Student Dinner



Saturday, February 23, 9 am

Men's Forum at Wegmans



Sunday, February 24, 3 - 5 pm

*"The Reformation Event
You Never Knew Existed"*

St. Peter Lutheran Church, Hopewell NJ



Wednesday, March 6, 7pm

*Ash Wednesday
Service of Holy Communion
with Imposition of Ashes*



Thursday, March 7, 6:30 pm

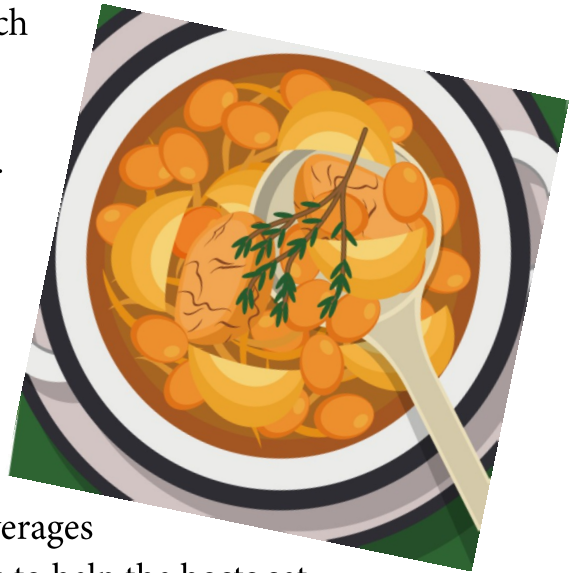
LCM Table Talk



ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN SOUP AND SALAD HOSTS NEEDED

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (this year, March 6), and we're planning a 6:00 PM soup & salad supper on each of these Lenten Wednesdays: March 13, 20, & 27, and April 3 & 10 (no supper on Ash Wednesday). If you are able to host a Wednesday supper, please sign up on the sheet in the back of the nave. Hosts bring enough soup, salad, and bread to feed 20–30 people. We encourage volunteers to team up and work together. Food costs can be reimbursed (submit receipts). Paper goods, butter, and beverages will be provided. We could also use volunteers to help the hosts set tables before each supper and clean up afterward (mainly washing dishes). If you can help with set up or clean up, please contact the church office.



UPCOMING ADULT FORUM TOPICS

Next Adult Forum series (Feb. 10 – Mar. 3): *Where is God in suffering?*

Leader: Justin Hylden

Adult Forum (March 10 & April 14): *Augustine's Confessions*.

Paul Rorem will present St. Augustine's famous Confessions, one of his teaching emphases at Princeton Theological Seminary. The first session will introduce the memoir part (the first half of the work) and encourage participants to read some or all of it during Lent. (This is for education, not penance!). Some copies will be available, and it is also free online. The second session will feature discussion of the memoir sections read (or not), and then go into his more introspective and theological reflections (Book X), especially the part Luther liked.

Any and all are welcome to one or both sessions.

ADVENT POTLUCK 2018



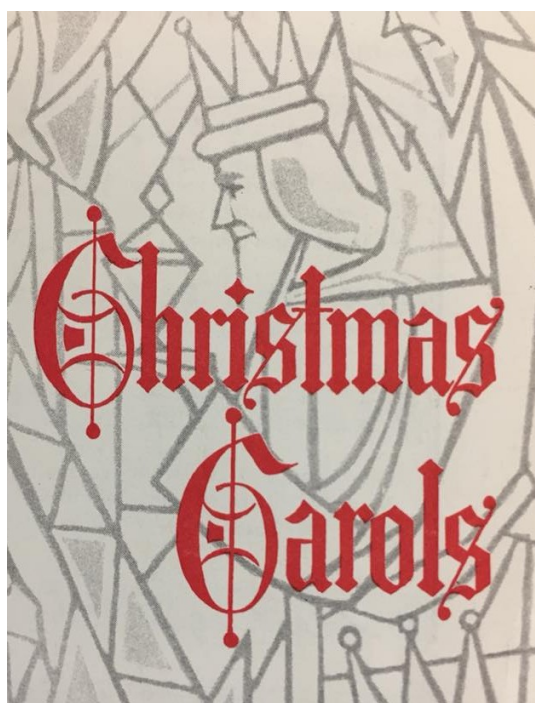
continued on the next page

ADVENT 2018



continued on the next page

ADVENT 2018



PRAYER SHAWL GROUP UPDATE FROM DORIS SCHUBERT-GERWERS



With great sadness,

I announce that I will no longer host the Prayer Shawl Group. The group met monthly for thirteen years. First at Mildred Coyner's home and for the last five years at my home. We shared happiness, sadness, supported each other, knitted, crocheted, prayed, laughed, and indulged in the most delicious desserts. We even had pool and grill parties during summer recess. We have given away hundreds of shawls that are worn and appreciated all over the world, and we took on a rather difficult task in creating the Needlepoint Panels that are hung in our church. But time did not stand still, members passed, moved away, pursued other interests and the group dwindled to a very low number of knitters now.

- Doris



MEMORIES FROM THE PRAYER SHAWL GROUP



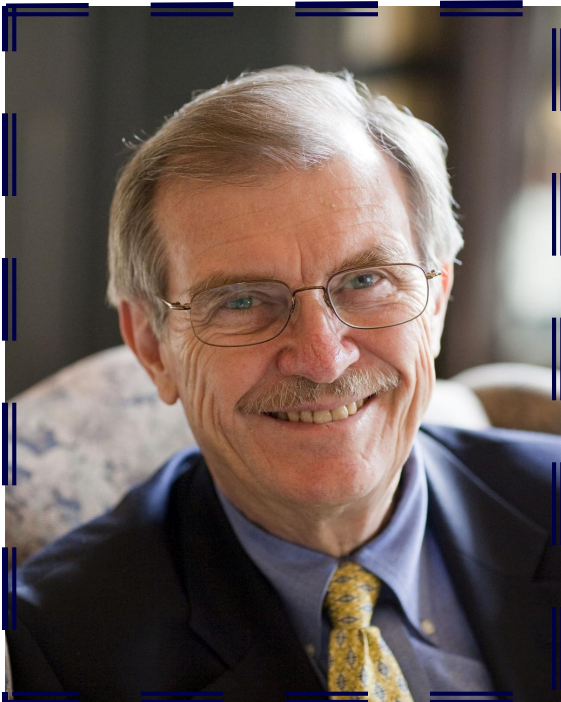
UPCOMING EVENT:

ON THE ROAD AGAIN WITH JESUS:
CHALLENGES OF BEING CHRISTIAN IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Saturday February 9, 2019, 9 AM to 2 PM

A Workshop Presented by Dr. Darrell Guder

Professor Emeritus, Princeton Theological Seminary



Professor Guder is the author of
The Missional Church &
The Continuing Conversation of the Church

Professor Guder is especially known for his analysis of the state of the Christian church in North America. He is also gifted at interpreting the life of Jesus and adapting the ideas and experience of the first century church to current challenges

Lunch will be provided. A donation of \$15 is requested.

RSVPs are appreciated

Please call Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

or email kathynowak@pop.nj.org

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
177 Princeton-Hightstown Road
Princeton Junction, NJ
609-799-1753

www.popnj.org

UPCOMING EVENT:

ST PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESENTS,
AN HISTORICAL PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION:
“THE REFORMATION EVENT YOU NEVER KNEW EXISTED”

Sunday, February 24, 2019, 3 PM to 5 PM

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Richard J. Serina, Jr.

Refreshments will be available after the lecture

Rev. Dr. Richard J. Serina, Jr., is pastor at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Ringwood, NJ, where he moved in 2015 with his wife, Christina, and four small children, now ages four to ten. He also serves as secretary of the New Jersey District and teaches at Concordia College-New York and through Concordia Seminary's online Specific Ministry Pastor program. Prior to New Jersey, he was Guest Professor of Historical Theology at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and Research Fellow at the Center for Reformation



Research, St. Louis. He earned his doctorate in historical theology from Concordia Seminary in 2014, with an emphasis on church history in the Middle Ages and the Reformation. Since then, he has written and presented many articles and essays on his areas of interest, he has published his dissertation, entitled *Nicholas of Cusa's Brixen Sermons and Late Medieval Church Reform* (Brill: 2016), and he has co-edited volumes on Lutheran ecclesiology and the Leipzig Debate of 1519 between Martin Luther and John Eck, both set to appear in 2019.

St. Peter Lutheran Church
1608 Harbourton Rocktown Rd
Lambertville, NJ 08530
(609) 466-0939

www.stpeternj.org/events

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR FEBRUARY

SEASON AFTER EPIPHANY YEAR C	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL READING
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany Feb. 3, 2019	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Psalms 71:1-6	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Luke 4:21-30
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany Feb. 10, 2019	Isaiah 6:1-8, 9-13	Psalms 138	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Luke 5:1-11
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany Feb. 17, 2019	Jeremiah 17:5-10	Psalms 1	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	Luke 6:17-26
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany Feb. 24, 2019	Genesis 45:3-11, 15	Psalms 37:1-11, 39-40	1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50	Luke 6:27-38



February 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9am Christian Education 10:30am Holy Communion	4	5	6 7:30pm Choir	7 6:30pm LCM Table Talk	8 7pm New Jersey District Worship Service	9
10 9am Christian Education 10:30am Holy Communion	11	12	13 7:30pm Choir	14	15 6pm International Student Dinner	16
17 9am Christian Education 10:30am Holy Communion	18	19	20 7:30pm Choir	21	22	23 9am Men's Forum
24 9am Christian Education 10:30am Holy Communion	25	26	27 7:30pm Choir	28		



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE MESSIAH

407 Nassau Street at Cedar Lane
Princeton, NJ 08540

Phone: 609-924-3642
lcmprinceton@gmail.com
www.princetonlutheranchurch.org

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED
