



# CrossRoads

Chapel Of The Cross - Lutheran

March - April 2018 Volume 10, No. 2



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## It's All About Jesus

by Pastor Laesch

The cast of characters is fascinating. The Lenten account is full of intriguing personalities. There is Peter, the reckless coward, keeping close to Jesus, but when confronted, vehemently denying that he even knew Him. There is Judas, the greedy traitor, the one Jesus even called “a devil.” (John 6:70-71) There is Pilate, the politically motivated skeptic who saw the Truth standing before him, but couldn't face the truth. There are the criminals hanging on crosses to the left and the right of our Lord, poignant symbols of the sheep and the goats (Matthew 25:31ff.) Add to these John, and Mary, and Herod, and Annas, and Caiaphas! What an array of characters and personalities! Colorful and complex and flawed and interesting and good and evil – strong players in the divine drama that we call the Passion of our Lord – strong enough, perhaps, to tempt us away from the central character of Lent: the Son of God and Son of Man!

But Jesus Christ is what Lent is all about. In fact, one of the most important things about Lent is not what this cast of characters did to Jesus – it is what Jesus did for them! “He was wounded for our transgressions” is the unending refrain of the Gospel. It is the ceaseless proclamation of Lent. He bore the sins of many. What He did for Peter, He did for me when I act like Peter. He confronts me with the truth even as He confronted Pilate. He promises me all that He gave that penitent thief hanging next to Him on the cross.

Jesus Christ is what Lent is all about – but not just Lent of course, also Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Pentecost. It's all about Jesus! And when we make our Lenten journey with Jesus Christ at the center of it all, we will leave Calvary on Good Friday strengthened in the conviction that Jesus is all that He said He was and all that we need Him to be: our Savior and our Lord. And we will wait with joy to hear the angel tell us on Easter morning:

“He is risen!” †††



Pastor Laesch



## Homebound Services

In addition to visiting and taking Communion to approximately 75 homebound people each month, one of the important ministries to them is that twice a year, before Thanksgiving and Easter, we have a special Communion service at Chapel followed by a wonderful lunch. While it is difficult for them to come to church on a weekly basis, many of our homebound are able to make it to these special services. They are brought by family, friends, or volunteers from Chapel who pick them up where they live. This year's Holy Week service is Monday, March 26, at 11:00 a.m. Please call the church office if you are interested in coming, and invite others you know who might be interested.

## Chapel Travelers' Spring Trip

On April 24-25 (Tuesday-Wednesday), The Chapel Travelers will be taking their sixth spring trip. This year we will be returning to Branson. Three of the things we will be doing are seeing "Samson" at the Sight and Sound Theater, visiting the College of the Ozarks, and taking an excursion on the Branson Belle for their dinner and show. This trip isn't just for Chapel members. Family and friends are also welcome. We are limited to fifty people going, so if more sign up we will start a waiting list. If you are interested in going with us, sign up at the Welcome Center or contact Dave Funke.

## GriefShare

We have now offered eight years of GriefShare, and what a blessing it has been and continues to be, to the participants. It truly is amazing how God's living Word can touch and begin to heal people in their darkest hours of grief. After seven years, we've had approximately 170 people be a part of this special ministry which has included people from Chapel and the community. We offer this on Tuesdays from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., and Thursdays from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. The 14 week cycle we are in at this time will run through April 17 and 19. It is never too late to join. If you are going through the journey of grief, we welcome you to join us. Or if you know of someone in this journey, tell them about GriefShare. Brochures are at the Welcome Center, or contact Dave Funke.

## Care Ministry

Last fall Chapel started two new programs to help out our members who need assistance for a period of time. The first is providing meals to people so they don't have to prepare meals every day. The second is providing transportation for those who may not be able to drive to a doctor's appointment, do banking or shopping, etc. Call me if you would like to help out in one or both of these ways. If you need some assistance, or know of someone who could use some assistance in one of these ways, let me, or someone in the office know. This group is ready and willing to help out. You are not imposing on us. So give us a call. ☩☩☩

The due date for the  
May - June issue of  
CrossRoads is  
Sunday, April 1

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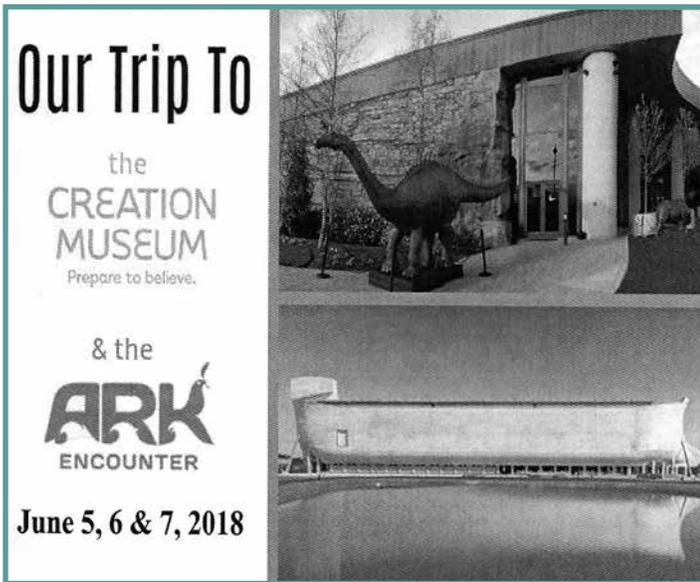
by Bill Rusnak, Director of Family Ministry

## Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars by March 31!

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have available Choice Dollars® have until March 31, 2018 to direct them. Don't miss this opportunity to recommend that Thrivent Financial provide outreach funding to Chapel of the Cross. Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

If you have any questions about Thrivent Financial or Thrivent Choice Dollars, contact Thrivent Representative, Allison Harris, at 314-570-9053.

Remember, Choice Dollars must be designated by March 31st! Please make your designations to Chapel of the Cross soon. †††



## Ark Encounter and Creation Museum

*June 5-7, 2018*

On Wednesday, June 5th, Chapel's Family Ministry is planning a three-day and two-night trip to the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter, in Williamstown, KY, 40 miles south of Cincinnati. The Ark Encounter is a full-sized reconstruction of Noah's Ark, making it the largest timber-frame structure in the world. Stretching more than 1.5 football fields in length, the sheer size of the Ark has been amazing people from around the world since its completion and opening on July 7, 2016. Dozens of exhibits within this unique attraction bring to life the biblical account of Noah's Ark. The world-class Creation Museum provides an excellent history of the Bible. Exhibits vividly bring to life a realistic Garden of Eden, animatronic Noah, Flood dioramas, stunning video displays, and much more.

We ask that people of all ages, families and friends of Chapel who are interested in attending to sign-up before Easter. The first payment of \$25 is due by May 2, 2018. Complete itineraries and trip details are available next to the sign-up sheet at our Welcome Center at church. †††



## Lenten Schedule

*Lenten Midweek Worship*  
March 7, 14, 21  
11:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

*Palm Sunday*  
March 25  
Regular weekend worship times

*Maunday Thursday*  
March 29  
11:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

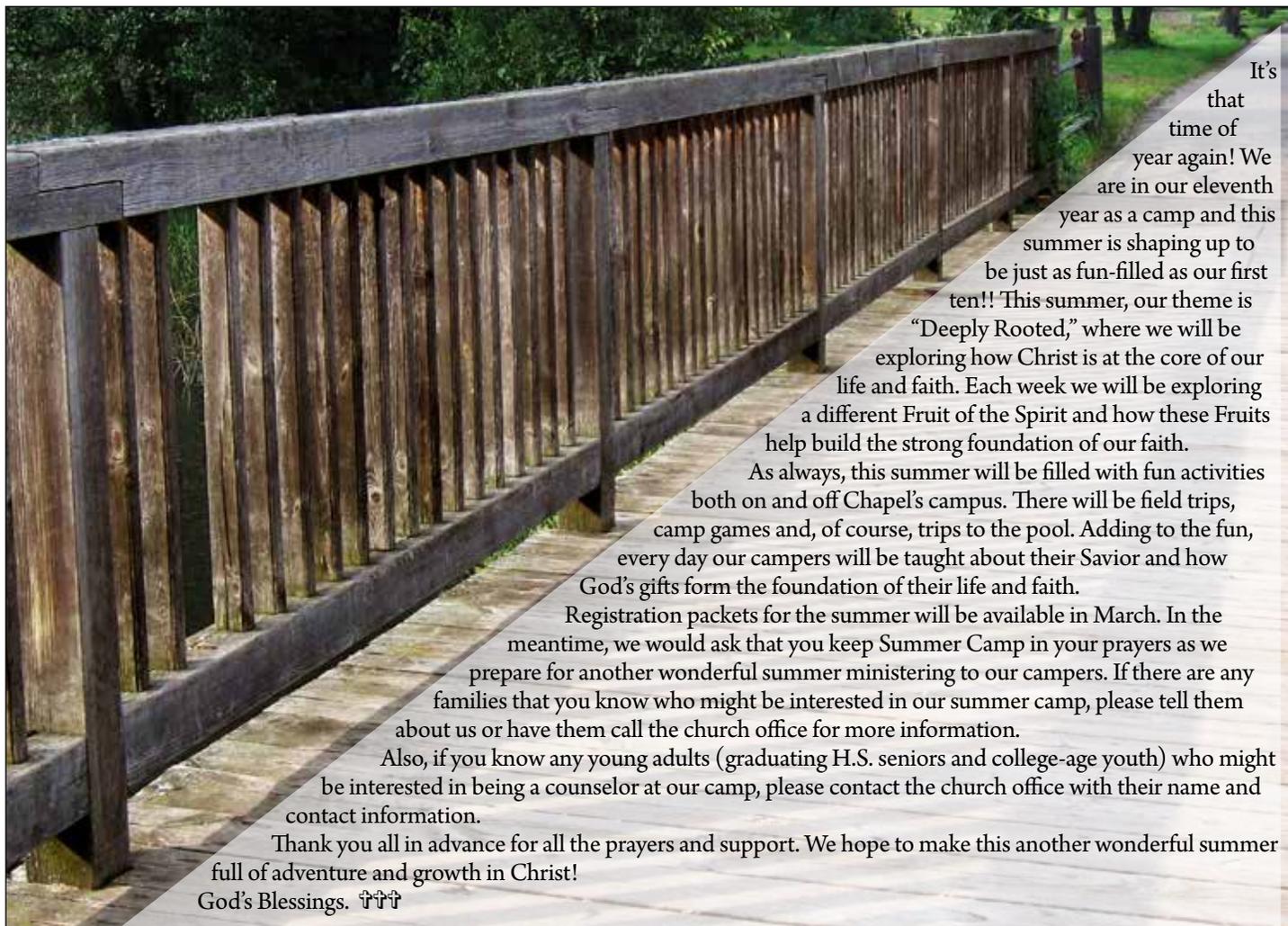
*Good Friday*  
March 30  
12:00 noon & 6:30 p.m.

*Easter Vigil*  
March 31  
5:00 p.m.

*Easter Sunday*  
April 1  
8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

# Chapel Summer Camp — 2018

by Meagan Schmidt and the Summer Camp Staff



It's that time of year again! We are in our eleventh year as a camp and this summer is shaping up to be just as fun-filled as our first ten!! This summer, our theme is "Deeply Rooted," where we will be exploring how Christ is at the core of our life and faith. Each week we will be exploring a different Fruit of the Spirit and how these Fruits help build the strong foundation of our faith.

As always, this summer will be filled with fun activities both on and off Chapel's campus. There will be field trips, camp games and, of course, trips to the pool. Adding to the fun, every day our campers will be taught about their Savior and how God's gifts form the foundation of their life and faith.

Registration packets for the summer will be available in March. In the meantime, we would ask that you keep Summer Camp in your prayers as we prepare for another wonderful summer ministering to our campers. If there are any families that you know who might be interested in our summer camp, please tell them about us or have them call the church office for more information.

Also, if you know any young adults (graduating H.S. seniors and college-age youth) who might be interested in being a counselor at our camp, please contact the church office with their name and contact information.

Thank you all in advance for all the prayers and support. We hope to make this another wonderful summer full of adventure and growth in Christ!  
God's Blessings. ✠✠✠



Couples had a special opportunity to renew their wedding vows during a service at Chapel on Marriage Anniversary Sunday, Feb.11. The couples gathered after the service for fellowship and refreshments.

**Chapel Life Team's Mission Statement:**

*"Motivated by the Gospel and the great love God has demonstrated to us in Jesus Christ, the Life Team of Chapel of the Cross Lutheran exists to equip our church to celebrate, defend, and care for life at all stages."*



From the Chapel Life Team: Thank you to all who attended the special Bible class on Sunday, January 21, 2018, for Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. Thank you also to Dave Funke who led the class, with the theme "Hope For Life" based on I Peter 3:15-17.

**TWO SPECIAL LIFE-AFFIRMING  
EVENTS IN APRIL**  
2018 CHURCHES FOR LIFE "LIFE SUMMIT"

Saturday, April 7, 2018

8:00 am to 2:30 pm

Includes continental breakfast and lunch

West County Assembly of God

13431 North Outer 40 Road, St. Louis, MO 63017

Registration Costs through March 1, 2018:

\$35 Regular - \$25 Student - Pastors Free

(Prices go up \$10 after March 1)

REGISTER at [www.getintolife.org](http://www.getintolife.org)

The Chapel Life Team invites you to attend the Life Summit. "Get inspired and informed to champion life!" There will be a keynote address "The Church, the Gospel, and Life" by Dr. Greg Austen, Executive Director of Church Outreach and Engagement with Care Net. There will be two out of ten workshops that you can register for, including veteran suicide, caring for the elderly with dignity, disability ministry. David Shudy, Concordia Seminary student, will speak on Eugenics, and Rev. Michael Salemin, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life, will speak on the Gospel's invitation to accompanied suffering instead of assisted suicide.

Flyers that list all of the workshops are available in the Commons Area and on the table by the Life Team bulletin board located in the lower level of Chapel. Register by March 1 for the lowest cost! Questions? Contact Dee Langefeld (868-4516 or [deelangefeld@sbcglobal.net](mailto:deelangefeld@sbcglobal.net)). †††

**Mary-Martha Guild**

Our March 12th meeting will feature Terry Donovan who will speak about actions we can take to make our homes safer and more accessible. Everyone is welcome to come. Refreshments will be served before our business meeting.

Our Spring Bake Sale is scheduled for March 24 and 25. More information about the beneficiary of the proceeds will follow in the Chapel Weekly.

On April 9th Kathy Helfer from Helfer's Bakery will speak about her life and her faith. Everyone is welcome to attend. We will serve refreshments followed by our business meeting. †††

**MISSOURI LUTHERANS FOR  
LIFE ANNUAL MEETING**

Saturday, April 14, 2018

9:30 am to 1:00 pm

Includes Lunch

St. Paul Lutheran Church

12345 Manchester Road, St. Louis, MO 63131

Cost: \$10.00

REGISTER with Diane Albers, President of LFL of MO at [lflofmo@gmail.com](mailto:lflofmo@gmail.com) or 314-631-9240 OR Dee Langefeld, Chapel Life Team

Leader at [deelangefeld@sbcglobal.net](mailto:deelangefeld@sbcglobal.net) by Monday, April 9

Speaker: Chrissie Gillet, PsyD, Deaconess Intern,

Word of Hope Director

Topic: Word of Hope. The Post-Abortion Healing Ministry of Lutherans For Life

Baby items (for girls and boys) will be collected to make layettes for Concordia Seminary families. (Items needed are listed on a flyer on the Life Team bulletin board located in the lower level of Chapel.)

THE CHAPEL LIFE TEAM INVITES YOU TO ATTEND  
THIS YEARLY MEETING! †††



# Board of Directors and Board of Elders



Left to right: Don Loberg, Nancy Swoboda, Julie Seibert, Curt Wiechert



Left to right: Brad Purcell, Marlo Stuart, Tim Brown, Carla Rainey, Don Sitek



Left to right: Ed Meyer, Sue Petersen, Denny Vogelsang, Pat Phipps, Ellory Glenn



*Board of Elders*

Left to right: Craig Schlichtmann, Stan Schwede, Gene Weidner, Jonathan Bellmann, Glenn Lackey



*Board of Elders*

Left to right: Robert Thomas, Jay Zvirgzdins, Ellory Glenn, Johnnie Spears, Jim Koch

*Hutchens*

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## Forty Years of Dedication by Maire Trelz

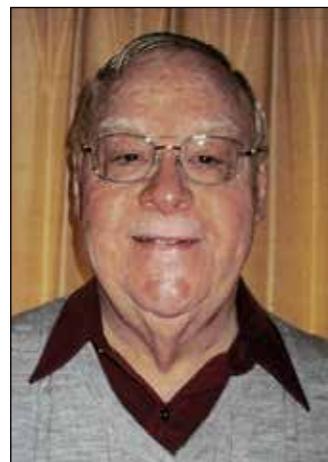
Anyone who has worked at the same job *unpaid* for forty years deserves to be recognized as a dedicated “employee.” We have one here at Chapel and his name is Richard Gronemeyer. He is the editor of the *CrossRoads*, and formerly the *Labarum*. His fortieth anniversary is this year and Pastor wanted it to be known that it was time he was recognized for this endeavor. If you needed to look up the meaning of dedicated, you would look in the dictionary and find a picture of Rich.

He was born in St. Louis and attended Harrison Elementary School. He went on to Lutheran High School which was in the city. Then he went on to Harris Teachers College in St. Louis where he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree and then on to SIU Edwardsville for his Masters Degree. Not only did he get a degree from Harris, he also met his wife Janet there. They have one son Jeff and he and his wife Heather

blessed Rich and Janet with four granddaughters. They enjoyed taking their granddaughters on trips, and one of their favorites was going to Disney World with them.

Rich and Janet like to travel and their favorite vacation spot is Door County, Wisconsin, where they’ve met many new friends. They are avid fans of the St. Louis Blues and they also enjoy visiting the Missouri History Museum for the various exhibits and programs there.

Rich taught 28 years at Woodland Elementary School in Jennings. After retirement, he worked as a consultant in the Jennings District helping teachers with classroom organization and management. Rich feels he has been blessed to have had many capable and dedicated associate editors and staff members through the years. We have enjoyed *Cross-Roads* very much because of his dedication. †††



Rich Gronemeyer

### Membership Matters

#### TRANSFER OUT

**Judith Dillard** to St. Paul Lutheran Church, St. Joseph, MO  
**Rev. Dennis Wenzholz, Kuei-mei, Timothy and Titus** to Peace Lutheran Church, Fresno, CA  
**Ned and Judy Koprowski**, to Holy Cross Lutheran Church, O’Fallon, MO  
**Rochelle Kress**, to Trinity Lutheran Church, Edwardsville, IL

#### DEATHS

**Carolyn A. Deady** (December 14, 2017)  
**Lois M. Tomazi** (November 25, 2017)  
**Nancy Broughton** (February 10, 2018)  
**James “Tom” Buckner** (January 9, 2018)  
**Richard E. Koehler** (January 26, 2018)  
**Alberta Meier** (January 18, 2018)  
**Edelyn Schlegel** (January 14, 2018)

Former number of members: 985

Gains: +0

Losses: -15

New number of members: 970

### Let Us Know!

Please call the church office (314-741-3737) if you:

- Have a new phone number or email
- Are sick, facing a surgery, or hospitalization
- Are unable to attend worship
- Are in need of prayer



Kirk Mueller

### YOUR LIFETIME PLAN FOR GIVING

*Have you left a lasting legacy  
of your faith?*

*Have you blessed your family in the best way?*

*Have you remembered your favorite ministries?*

As you can answer “yes” to each of these questions, I know you will experience the peace and joy of knowing God has blessed you to be a blessing.

To find out more, contact:

Kirk Mueller—LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor

11645 Benham Road, St. Louis, MO 63136

314.704.4389

[Kirk.mueller@lcms.org](mailto:Kirk.mueller@lcms.org)

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Sunday Worship Services  
8:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School, Youth, and Adult Classes  
9:45 a.m.

Saturday Evening Worship Service  
5:00 p.m.

Holy Communion

1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday of the month: 8:30 a.m.  
2nd, 4th and 5th Sunday of the month: 11:00 a.m.  
1st, 3rd and 5th Saturday of the month: 5:00 p.m.

*Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran  
exists to show the love of Jesus to  
the people of North County and  
beyond so that all may have a  
living relationship with Christ.*

