

# Friendship

Lutheran Church of

September 2021

*From the Pastor's Desk*



God's Word comes in two forms. Most are familiar with the Bible of 66 books and almost 800,000 words. The other is the Word that was God expressing himself in creation and becoming flesh in Jesus. One Word in two manifestations. This Word is the creative force that changes lives. There are two ways to read the Bible. One is for *information*. The other is for *formation*. The amount of information is overwhelming, especially those covering the years of the Old Testament. The New Testament is only one-fifth the total length and is easier, covering only about seventy years. Every book needs to be interpreted according to the type of literature it is. It is a collection of God-inspired writings of different types of literature, including the poetry of the Psalms and the symbolism of Revelation, books which were not meant to be taken literally. Yet Scripture is infallible in what it teaches about the relation between God and his people.

Stay with that keyword "inspired," meaning in-Spirited. It reflects the Word as the creative force that dwells among us. It is the Word through which all things were made. Jesus was that Word when he lived among us. Ascended, He and the Father now delegate that creative force to His Spirit, who dwells among us today. The writers of the various book were moved by the Spirit to convey God's truths as that was revealed to each of the writers. Here's the issue. Will the readers of the 800,000 words be creatively "in-Spirited" also? They will if they are willing to move beyond reading for *information* to reading for *formation*. This is being shaped by the Spirit. Paul urged that his readers "be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is" (Romans 12:2). But when you are reading for formation, the emphasis is on what this creative Word means for you personally.

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## *From the Pastor's Desk (cont'd)*

How will your life be transformed by what you are hearing from God? Are you being “transformed into Christ’s likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.” (1 Cor 3:18)? How do you read God’s Word in order to be shaped by the Spirit? Slowly and with the realization that the Spirit comes at His initiative. What you can do is take the initiative to place yourself in the Spirit’s Workshop. Reading by yourself is a good start. Then try adding to this by carefully reading a well-written devotional that interprets a passage and applies it to daily living. But the best workshop is where the Word is being shared and applied by others around you. That happens especially in small groups that discuss the meaning of a particular Word for them personally and how it applies to the group as a whole so that we can then be Spirit-ed in proclaiming God’s peace, joy, hope and love to all. **Let the Spirit guide us into what works in getting us where the Spirit can use us to transform the world.**

Blessings,  
Pastor

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# Mission News

This month I would like to make you aware of the Pregnancy Resource Center's (Living Alternatives) Life Banquet. The banquet will be held on Thursday, October 14 at the I-Hotel, 900 south third St. in Champaign. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and the event will begin at 7:00 p.m. A delicious meal will be served, followed by our guest speaker, Mark Schultz. Mark is a Christian musician. He was an orphan and will be sharing his story.

The Living Alternatives does facilitate adoptions, educate and support pregnant women, offer free pregnancy tests and ultrasounds procedures. Their educational videos are excellent. There are also educational classes offered for daddies. They have clothing and diaper giveaways for the mothers-to-be. Mercies refuge is also part of their outreach. This is a residential facility for women who need support and desire a life transforming opportunity. It is a loving place to come to prepare for the arrival of your baby. These services are free and are funded by this community's generosity.

There is no cost for the meal at the banquet. A freewill offering to support the center will be taken at the end of the evening. If you would like to register for the event or find out more about Mark Schultz, visit [www.chprcevents.org](http://www.chprcevents.org) or talk to Gayle Zuehls.



## Elders Corner/LWML

“Deep in your hearts you know that every promise of the Lord your God has come true. Not a single one has failed!” Joshua 23:14-16 NLT

Every book of the Bible has a distinctive and unique purpose. Many times you can find a key verse that drives this home. For example, the purpose of the book of Revelation is stated right at the beginning of the book: “To show his servants--things which must shortly take place.” (Revelation 1:1).

In the book of Joshua, the underlying purpose and theme is stated near the end of the book in Joshua 23:14 -- “And you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the Lord your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one word of them has failed.”

How important! Whatever you’re facing today, God has filled His word with promises. To learn and know about these promises, you must read the Bible which is the very words inspired and preserved by God.

We have many opportunities to join a class to study God’s word. Our church offers a Men’s Bible study which meets at 7:00 AM every Wednesday morning. They are studying the Book of Ephesians at the present time. The Women of our church can attend Elizabeth Circle which meets every other Monday at 10:00 AM.

For those who wish a comprehensive, in-depth study of the Bible, you are invited to join Bible Study Fellowship (BSF). We will study the Bible book of St. Matthew and will cover the life of Jesus with references from the books of St. Mark and St. Luke.

The Men’s Group will start on Monday, September 13 at 6:30 PM. The Women’s Group will start on Tuesday, September 14 at 9:00 AM. For more information, please call Elmer or Gayle Zuehls or Kyle Krapf.



All ladies and pastors are invited to the LWML Champaign Zone Rally on Wednesday morning, September 15, at Trinity, Urbana. Registration and refreshments are available at 9:15 a.m. with the opening of the rally at 9:45 a.m. A \$5.00 registration fee will be collected at the door. The ingathering will benefit The Daily Bread Soup Kitchen. You may bring fresh fruits and vegetables, canned goods, or other non-perishable items. Cash also accepted.

Please let Mae know before September 15 if you will be attending.

(217) 359-3755.

# One Month Bible Reading Plan

Most people professing faith in Jesus have never completely read their Bible. Many people start reading the Bible but then become overwhelmed by the number of chapters (1,189) and verses (31,102) there are. What we don't realize is that we can read the Bible in a year by reading fewer than four chapters a day. Every month we will post the "reading schedule" in the Newsletter. This structured approach of reading Scripture brings a fresh approach to each day's reading, while providing a clearer understanding of the Bible's larger message.

## Tips on Reading the Bible Daily

1. Start reading the Bible today — there is no better time than now!
2. Set aside a specific time each day. Set your schedule and then stick to it. Feel free to use any time that works consistently for you. If you miss a day, just make it up (don't give up); habits both good and bad are formed easily.
3. Read the Bible for the sake of learning, not simply to accomplish your next reading. Say a short prayer to God before you begin, asking the Holy Spirit to give you wisdom and understanding, then be refreshed by the words you read!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> Jeremiah 34-36	<b>2</b> Jeremiah 37:1-41:10	<b>3</b> Jeremiah 41:11-45:5	<b>4</b> Jeremiah 46-48
<b>5</b> Jeremiah 49:1-51:10	<b>6</b> Jeremiah 51:11-52:34	<b>7</b> Lam. 1:1-3:51	<b>8</b> Lam. 3:52-5:22; Ezekiel 1-2	<b>9</b> Ezekiel 3-8	<b>10</b> Ezekiel 9-12	<b>11</b> Ezekiel 13:1-16:43
<b>12</b> Ezekiel 16:44-20:17	<b>13</b> Ezekiel 20:18-22:12	<b>14</b> Ezekiel 22:13-24:27	<b>15</b> Ezekiel 25:1-28:10	<b>16</b> Ezekiel 28:11-31:18	<b>17</b> Ezekiel 32:1-34:24	<b>18</b> Ezekiel 34:25-38:9
<b>19</b> Ezekiel 38:10-40:49	<b>20</b> Ezekiel 41-43	<b>21</b> Ezekiel 44-47	<b>22</b> Ezekiel 48; Daniel 1:1-2:30	<b>23</b> Daniel 2:31-4:27	<b>24</b> Daniel 4:28-7:12	<b>25</b> Daniel 7:13-11:13
<b>26</b> Daniel 11:14-12:13; Hosea 1-3	<b>27</b> Hosea 4-9	<b>28</b> Hosea 10-14; Joel 1:1-2:17	<b>29</b> Joel 2:18-3:21; Amos 1-4	<b>30</b> Amos 5-9; Obadiah 1:1-9		

# In Our Prayers

## *The Power of Prayer*



- ♥ Prayers of thanks for the birth of a healthy baby girl to Justine (Hellmer) Gimer
- ♥ Prayers of comfort and healing for Hazel's friend Susan and her family
- ♥ Prayers of healing and comfort for Eileen Busboom's brother, Edgar, and his family
- ♥ LCMS Synod, Districts, Members and Pastors
- ♥ Church members
- ♥ Those who have yet to believe
- ♥ All who travel
- ♥ Country, state, and local governments
- ♥ All who serve (first responders, military, police, fire, EMTs)

# Celebrations



### September Birthdays

- 1 Roger Francisco
- 2 Cheyenne Taylor
- 10 Aliannah Taylor
- 11 Christopher Morris
- 15 LaMae Ryan

### September Anniversaries

- 12 Ryan & Caitlin Drake
- 22 Peter & Lora Carlson
- 24 Daniel & Catherine Luhrsen



### September Baptism Birthdays

Alicia Brach, Kenneth Brach, Lora Carlson, Ron Courtright, Christopher Miller,



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 7 am Men's Bible Study	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 9am Worship* 10am Bible Study	<b>6</b> 	<b>7</b> Elders 6 pm	<b>8</b> 7 am Men's Bible Study 6:30 pm Hymn Sing	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 9am Worship 10am Bible Study	<b>13</b> Elizabeth Circle 10 am BSF Men, 6:30 pm	<b>14</b> BSF Women, 9:00 am Council 6 pm	<b>15</b> 7 am Men's Bible Study	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 9am Worship* 10am Bible Study	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 7 am Men's Bible Study	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 9am Worship 10am Bible Study	<b>27</b> Elizabeth Circle 10 am	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 7 am Men's Bible Study	<b>30</b>		

\* **Bolded signifies communion will be offered at this service.**

**Friendship Lutheran  
Church of** 

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Champaign, IL 61822

217-355-0454

**Pastoral Care**  
Pastor Glen Triplett  
pastorglen@friendshiplutheran.com

**Staff**  
Sally Nourie - Church Secretary  
office@friendshiplutheran.com  
(Office hours 9:00-2:00  
Monday—Thursday)

**Visit us on the Internet!**  
www.friendshiplutheran.com

  
**Worship Schedule**

9:00 a.m. Blended Service

10:15 a.m. Sunday School &  
Bible Studies

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Holy Communion is offered on the  
1st & 3rd Sundays of the month .

***Please continue to watch our worship services on  
You Tube, Facebook and our website.***

OUR MISSION:

To *Joyfully* connect people to Christ and His family.