

Times of Confusion, Confession Pastor Weinkauf

What is the worst thing that can happen to you this week? Think about it. Our lives, everything must be rooted in the love of our God above all gods. We poor miserable rebels must have God look upon us in mercy through the works of Christ.

1st Commandment. Your God is what you fear, love, and trust in above all things. How have you trusted in God in these times above all things?

2nd Commandment. The Lord's Name upon us in Baptismal waters saves, gives us Jesus, gives us true life. Do we call upon Him in every trouble, pray, praise and give thanks? Because He has Named us, we do not live as the world lives their life.

3rd Commandment. Our true, only Sabbath rest is Christ every day. Yet how can we find rest in Christ apart from receiving Him in the Divine Service?

In these times we must all repent, for we all deserve punishment and death that may come upon us and should rightfully not trust in the gods of medicine or science. Science and/or one's health have become gods for many who want answers there, that trust in that, that find safety in wellness. Rather than seeing science as the pursuit of knowledge, it has become a source of truth and tool of politics. Many of the scientific 'truths' in our day absolutely fail to pass the test of actual data! Science should follow data, not self-proclaimed experts, nor an agenda put forth by media companies and politicians that only allows a certain narrative and information flow.

I have seen many die of various causes. This is our enemy at work in the world. In the face of death, life in Christ is proclaimed. To a world of fear, with fear-mongers in media and politicians to keep people living scandalized, we confess God came in the flesh to die in our place, so we never die. So then how can any of us ever live in fear of illness, disease, or death?! Or to think coming to our Lord's House could ever be harmful? How are we confessing what is our life and who is our life before the world?

Here's a question the unbelieving world cannot understand or answer correctly. What is the worst thing that can happen to you this week? The answer is quite simple: Not being able to receive Christ's Words, works, forgiveness, and very life in the Divine Service. Amid a week of evil, sin, and death that may come upon, what is central to your life, needed more in your life in the mist of it all?

Let us remember what a god is. Something that we trust in for good in our lives, something we find our life safe in. Have our bodies and well-being become gods for us? Do we think our life is our own? and not solely His? Yes, be aware, conscientious, take safety precautions. Yet we are hounded by the social distancing, vaccinations, and mask commandments as a god.

What is happening today is nothing new. People holding to 'commandments of men' over 'commandments of God.' Finding safety, health, life in oneself and one's actions. People fearing temporal death.

We cannot save ourselves from death and the grave. We can only all repent and trust our Lord to hold our lot. In a world that promotes fear, let us boldly proclaim life. The life our Lord gives. And that certainly would mean one's concern over their health should not keep one away from God's House. Live in the life He gives us without fear but as those who are immortal who have died with Christ and have been raised with Him.

Blessed New Year!

Key Events

January 2
Installation of
Officers, 10:30

January 5
Midweek resumes

January 6
Feast of Epiphany
7pm Divine Service

January 9
Feast of the
Baptism of Our Lord

January 10
Classical Academy
resumes

January 25
Life Conference &
March to Capitol

January 30
Adult Catechism/
New Member class begins

Church
913.724.2900
rslcms.church

Pastor Weinkauf
weinkauf@rslcms.church
913.369.5942

Pastor Cockran
cockran@rslcms.church
580.465.6498

Kantor Schreiber
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402.715.0799

Beware of Cuddly Kittens

Pastor Cockran

It is pretty clear how all of humanity is born with the instinct to run from things that cause us harm. Much of parenthood, really, is simply teaching our children what to avoid. Eventually, we also develop how to fight against those things that we cannot run away from as well. This "flight-or-fight" response is "the instinctive physiological response to a threatening situation, which readies one either to resist forcibly or to run away" (Oxford Languages). We tend to do fairly well. We put our most dangerous animals in cages. We take shelter for the occasional bad thunderstorm. We can hold our own commuting home during rush hour. However, we are not very good at avoiding or fighting the one thing that endangers our lives the most: false doctrine.

Remember the words of St. Peter: "Be sober-minded; Be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith" (1 Pet. 5:8-9).

The problem, however, is how subtle and cunning the devil can be with his false doctrine. That is, he can make his lion-roaring prowling seem more like a meow from a cuddly kitten. We actually have this experience in common with our first parents. God taught Adam and Eve the one thing that would kill them. The fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was the most dangerous thing in the new world. Enter false doctrine: "You will not surely die," the ancient serpent said, and since then he's become all the craftier at deceiving souls away from God's Word. In fact, one of God's blessings after the fall into sin was making clear that the devil is not our friend, but God said instead to the serpent, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring" (Gen 3:15).

Jesus said: "Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell." (Matt. 10:28) We are not to fear physical death because physical death has lost its sting in Jesus. What should we fear? Condemnation. Eternal death. How would this come? Through unchecked false belief, despair, and other great shame or vice that leads ultimately to casting off the faith entirely.

False doctrine is dangerous because it is hidden. The devil is always seeking to get you to place your trust in anything other than God's Word. The tempter comes when you least expect. He comes with the teaching that your flesh likes to hear, that you can be good all on your own instead of having the righteousness of Jesus gifted to you. It worked on Adam and Eve. It can work on you if you lower your guard. "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you" (James 4:7-8). Build yourself up by the Word of God, and pray that you will finally overcome the false doctrines of the world, devil, and flesh, and finally win the victory through Christ Jesus, our Lord.



Sunday School

3yr. old -8th grade

Thank you for all who helped, attended and children at the Christmas Program! Thanks to Deb Swearingen for the tree & ornaments used.

Thanks to Bruce & Amanda Harbord, Jodi Weinkauff, Susan Eubanks for watching 18 kids at our December gamenight.

Next Sunday School gamenight/
Parent datenight: **February 12**



Youth Group

High School

January 2 6:00-8:00 pm
Invite any friends.

Thanks for all who helped, serve, donated for the Advent meals!

See you at 9:15 Sunday!

higherthings.org



Table Talk

19-39 year old

Social setting of young adults, single or married, engaging issues & culture in light of God's Word.

Watch for an upcoming event in February.

Women in Mission Chyleen Pausick, President

Many thanks go to all who participated in our annual cookie walk – to all who bought cookies, all who furnished cookies, and all who participated in our quilt raffle. \$600 was raised to go to the Seminary student food bank. Billie Brush won the quilt raffle.

Our next event will be our Christmas Party on Sunday, January 2, at the church. We will be making Beef Stew, and will deliver a meal of it to 20-24 of our adult members who live alone. We will need lots of help to cut up everything for this special recipe, so join us at 4:30, in the church kitchen, and help us to furnish this caring project for our members. We will have a generous serving of the stew, a dinner roll, and dessert, and will deliver them in the following days. We will also enjoy a pot-luck meal, when the stew is finished. Bring any dish that you want, to share. Plans for 2022 will be shared, also.



Jan. 2
4:30 pm

Adult Catechism Class

"Evangelism" that is, the Good News, this Scriptural truth shows us is: -preaching, teaching, study of God's Word faithfully, liturgical worship, the proper use of the Sacraments, the daily living out of our faith in Jesus Christ, in the fellowship of the body of Christ, and in love toward others. This is the appropriate, effective means for sharing the faith, confessing Christ, and "growing the Church." That is why we should consider it a joy to share with others -what we have at Risen Savior that the gift of our Lord they are missing or being mis-taught. **Now is the time** to think of some people to invite/encourage to "look into" Risen Savior, perhaps bring them to the class starting January 30. **Invite** family and friends to visit Services, Bible classes, and activities at the church. **Share** with them about Risen Savior. Don't assume others would not be are interested.



Begins
Jan. 30
5 pm.

Men's GameNight Usually 4th Friday of the month

Next gathering **Jan. 28, 7 pm**. All men of the congregation (and any friends), over 18, are welcome to come to our monthly Men's GameNight. This is a collegial time for men of the congregation to gather and enjoy a time of gregarious, godly behavior. We usually play cards, usually enjoy smoked meats, always have snacks and fine beverages.



Jan. 28
7 pm

1st Friday Trustees

All are invited as we will gather at the first Friday of the month to address various little projects, maintenance, or enhancements inside and outside the church. We will grab some coffee, and work until 9-9:30 am.



Jan. 7
8:00 am



Katie's Sisters

Ladies Night Out, sisters of Katie Luther
Katlyn Selbe, Coordinator

January gathering. Danny's Bar & Grill, Legends

God's Blessings on another year to spend time with your sisters! Come join us **January 20 at 6:30 pm**. We will meet at **Danny's Bar & Grill located at 10940 Parallel Parkway**. They have a special seating area just for us! **RSVP to Katlyn Selbe at 913-617-3844.**

Jan. 20
6:30 pm



Risen Savior Moms

Katlyn Selbe, Coordinator

We have our own private tour of the Basehor Fire Department, **January 14 at 10 am**. Parents and grandparents with kids of all ages are welcome to join us! No need to RSVP.

Jan. 14
10:00 am

Welcome to all parents, grandparents with children to gather a various parks and venues around the metro area for children to play and moms, grandmas to connect.



Men's Basketball

Starts Jan. 5, Sundays, 8 pm. All men (high school & up) of the congregation, and any friends, are invited to play pick-up games.



Book Club

Amanda Uhlmansiek, Coordinator

A variety of books to be taken up. **1st Thursday** of the month, 6:30 pm. All are invited to come and listen to the lively discussion! (Even if you haven't finished the book or it hasn't come yet!) Order now for upcoming gatherings...

Jan. 13
-1 week later!
6:30 pm

January 13: The Brothers Karamozov by Fyodor Dostoevsky. Since it is a large read to discuss Part I & II

February 3: The Brothers Karamazov by Fyodor Dostoevsky, to end.

Special thanks to Ted & Kim Dunn for the reception, punch, & cake following the Children's Christmas Program.



Who is a Kantor?

Timothy Schreiber, Kantor

As my time here at Risen Savior continues into its fourth month, some have become well accustomed to the title of "Kantor." As a matter of practicality, it makes introductions rather simple when everyone has something to call me regardless of if you know or remember my name. Additionally, the word rolls off the tongue in an almost identical way as does the title of "Pastor." Is that an intentional parallel? Perhaps not, but it was an important part of my discussions with the Pastors as we discussed the question "What should we call you?"

There is value in the similarity between the two titles of "Pastor" and "Kantor." Historically, the roll of Kantor was common in churches and schools (often the same institution in Post-Reformation Germany). The Kantor is tasked with providing music for services, including choral, instrumental, and solo music (including chant). Additionally, Bach, for example, directed the boys choir for the local school, and frequently completed more rudimentary tasks around the church. (Bach was also the accountant for his church). The Kantor's primary goal in directing all these forms of music simultaneously is a goal familiar to us church-goers: To Preach the Gospel.

This is where the importance behind the pronunciation comes in. There is a direct link between the goal of Pastor and Kantor during the Gottesdienst (Divine Service). The Kantor is not called to absolve sins publicly in the stead and by the Command of Jesus, nor is he called to consecrate the elements of the Holy Eucharist. He is called to create an unified front of both spoken and sung preaching of God's Word for the Liturgy. He is a sort of "Pastor-of-Music." (If we belonged to an Anglican tradition, my title would literally be "Minister of Music"). He works alongside the clergy to insure that everything fits into the overarching liturgy of Christian life within the church: The appointed Pericopes of the Lectionary.

Although the title of "Music Director" is often used to describe a similar position, it is meet and right to observe the spiritual emphasis that goes along with a Kantor. I am not a contracted professional who comes in every Sunday to accomplish a job description just to gain a paycheck and sustain myself. I am a Lutheran, I am a member of this Congregation, I am following the vocation God has given me, and, in my vocation as Kantor, I do all things to the Glory of God.

Weekly Bible Classes

Sunday 9:15
Genesis

Wednesday 8:30 Matins, 9:30 Class
2 Corinthians

HOLY
BIBLE

Upcoming Divine Services

Jan. 2 2nd Sunday in Christmas Jesus Is Found in the Temple of His Church
1 Kings 3:4-15; Ephesians 1:3-14; Luke 2:40-52; Hymns 384-410-358-372-390

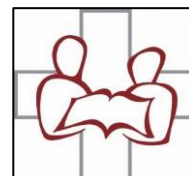
SPECIAL- THURSDAY Jan. 6 Epiphany God Is Manifested in the Incarnate Son
Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12; Hymns: 386-399-372-370-624-401

Jan. 9 Baptism of our Lord God Opens Heaven to You in Holy Baptism
Isaiah 43:1-7; Romans 6:1-11; Luke 3:15-22; Hymns: 601-404-405-596-597-594

Jan. 16 2nd Sunday after Epiphany Divine Glory Is Manifested in the Signs of Christ
Isaiah 62:1-5; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11 Setting 4; Hymns: 395-408-399-394-624-401

Jan. 23 3rd Sunday after Epiphany The Lord Is Manifested through Preaching the Gospel
Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Cor. 12:12-31a; Luke 4:16-30; Hymns 810-523-617-533-540-401

Jan. 30 4rd Sunday after Epiphany Jesus Has Authority to Forgive Your Sins and Give You Life
Jeremiah 1:4-10; 1 Cor. 12:31b-13:13; Luke 4:31-44; Hymns 403-842-624-727-538-578



Risen Savior Classical Academy

Our 1st Semester of our 4th year has drawn to a close. It continues to be an amazing endeavor for our congregation, children, and people involved. Please keep the instructors and students in your prayers.

INSTRUCTOR? SUB? VOLUNTEER?

We have 2 key Instructors having babies this spring and there are also many opportunities to help -paid or volunteer. Contact Pastor Cockran.



Christmas Program practice, lined up in the hallway for the procession. 40 of our children participated.



ADVENTIDE Socials returned! As everyone was welcome to gather at designated homes the Fridays of Advent. Special thanks to this year's hosts: **Uhmansiek, Byrd, Mortensen**. Plenty of foods and beverages was found and the hour long social wrapped up with a hymn sing and devotions. Great evenings!




Special thanks to 21 men who helped move Pastor Cockran on Monday morning 12/13; he now lives 3 minutes from church.

Monthly Focus...

Our Volunteer Cleaning

- **We would like a few more families to volunteer.**
Sign-up card just inside the Church Office to add your name.
- **Your 'week' to clean is just 2 times a year.**
- **Come anytime during your 'week' to clean. Takes about 1 hour.**
- **See the map and details for what is needed. No bathrooms!**
- **This saves the church \$thousands in expenses!**
- **Foremost it is a service to your Lord & unto your family of Risen Savior.**



**RISEN SAVIOR
CLEANING**

Volunteers
Wittenberg Hall with classrooms. Library, Main hallway; Nursery, Offices, Narthex

- 1) Vacuum
- 2) Counters and tables wiped down
- 3) Remove trash
- 4) Windex glass doors if needed.*

Cleaning Coordinator
Mary Follin
mfollin2015@gmail.com
913-596-1712





Life Conference & March to Capitol

St. John, Topeka is hosting a Conference that includes the annual Life March.

See Pastor Weinkauff to Register.

Tuesday Jan. 25

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Rev. Dr. Jim Lamb
Life Advocate, LFS of Iowa
"A Time to Speak"

SPECIAL GUEST

Deaconess Tiffany Manor
Director, LCMS Life Ministry

The Gospel of Jesus is the most positive and powerful FOR LIFE message in the universe! ... It's Time to Speak this message to those in our pews and those in our culture.

- Carpool - Leave here at 8:00 am for St. John, Topeka.**
- Lunch provided.**
- Return around 3:45 pm.**

This includes a March, 5 blocks to the State Capitol where we will gather with 3,000+ other Christians for a program, notable speakers from the Capitol steps.

JANUARY 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26 Feast of St. Stephen 8:00 a Divine Service 9:15 a Sun. School/Bible class 10:30 a Divine Service 6:00 p Book-of-Concord	27 St. John, apostle	28 Holy Innocents'	29	30	31 Eve of Jesus Name 8:00 p Activities begin 10:00 p Divine Service 12:15 a Activities end	1 New Years' Day
2 2nd Sun. in Christmas 8:00 a Divine Service 9:15 a Sun. School/Bible class 10:30 a Divine Service 6:00 p Youth Group 8:00 p Men's Basketball	3	4	5 8:30 a Matins Service 9:00 a Bible Study for all 6:30 p Evening Prayer 7:00 p Confirmation 7:00 p Vocal choir 7:45 p Bell choir	6 Epiphany 7:00 p Divine Service	7 8-9:30 a 1st Friday Trustee work	8
9 Baptism of Our Lord 8:00 a Divine Service 9:15 a Sun. School/Bible class 10:30 a Divine Service 8:00 p Men's Basketball	10 8:30a-3:30p RSCA Noon-Lunch-with-Pastor 6:30 p Board of Elders	11 10:00 a Bible Study @ Advocacy First	12 8:30 a Matins Service 9:00 a Bible Study for all 6:30 p Evening Prayer 7:00 p Confirmation 7:00 p Vocal choir 7:45 p Bell choir	13 8:30a-3:30p RSCA 6:30 p Book Club (1 week later this month) 6:30 p Trail Life	14	15 9-10 a Private Confession & Absolution
16 2nd Sun. aft Epiphany 8:00 a Divine Service 9:15 a Sun. School/Bible class 10:30 a Divine Service 11:40 a Church Council 8:00 p Men's Basketball	17 8:30a-3:30p RSCA	18 Confession of St. Peter	19 8:30 a Matins Service 9:00 a Bible Study for all 6:30 p Evening Prayer 7:00 p Confirmation 7:00 p Vocal choir 7:45 p Bell choir	20 8:30a-3:30p RSCA 10 a Newsletter deadline 6:30 p Katie's Sister	21	22
23 3rd Sun. aft Epiphany 8:00 a Divine Service 9:15 a Sun. School/Bible class 10:30 a Divine Service 8:00 p Men's Basketball	24 8:30a-3:30p RSCA	25 Conversion of St. Paul 8:15 a Life March and Conference. Carpool from church to St. John, Topeka for a Life Conference; involves speakers; at 12:30 pm a March to Capital to gather w/other Christians for a program; back around 3 pm	26 St. Titus, Pastor 8:30 a Matins Service 9:00 a Bible Study for all 6:30 p Evening Prayer 7:00 p Confirmation 7:00 p Vocal choir 7:45 p Bell choir	27 8:30a-3:30p RSCA 6:30 p Trail Life	28 7:00 p Men's Gamenight	29
30 4th Sun. aft Epiphany 8:00 a Divine Service 9:15 a Sun. School/Bible class 10:30 a Divine Service 5:00 p Adult Catechism Class 6:00 p Book of Concord study 8:00 p Men's Basketball	31 8:30a-3:30p RSCA	1	2 Presentation of Mary 8:30 a Matins Service 9:00 a Bible Study for all	3 8:30a-3:30p RSCA	4 8-9:30 a First Friday Trustee work	5 9-10 a Private Confession & Absolution

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Joely, Rylee Hackmann 1 Brianna Shephard 4 Richard Schilling 5 Nancy Hobelmann 6 Chris Stevens 7 Derron Mayer 8 Miles Vincent 8 Evelyn Zulauf 9 Steve Crowell | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 Krista Byrd 11 Emily Stuart 11 Marc Muntzel 15 Gretchen Bast 15 David Ford 15 Wendy Dedeke 17 Allan Stork 18 Gary Cordes 18 Eleanor Lenahan 18 Kaci Sullivan |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 18 Terry Follin 19 Kevin & Lanette Carder 20 Ralph Hailey 21 Ashley Reeves 21 Caleb Grimm 21 Suzette France-Mack 22 Donovan Walker 22 Max Bohndorf 22 Kim Mars | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 22 Lauren Hueser 23 Ron & Joanie Jones 24 Kris Ball 25 Angie Armintrout 26 Ben Stinson 26 Maggie Schilling 26 Jessica Zulauf 26 Kinsey Swartz 26 Brady Sullivan |
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|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 27 Samuel Turntine 27 Sarah Bretz 28 Dustin Gary 29 Pat Oyer 30 Alex Harper 31 Evianna Johnson | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 27 Samuel Turntine 27 Sarah Bretz 28 Dustin Gary 29 Pat Oyer 30 Alex Harper 31 Evianna Johnson |
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Thank You

To those families cleaning in December:

Erickson, Pettijohn,
Friedman, Harbord

To those who helped decorate the church.

To all who supported the Advent meals.

To Kim Dunn for playing the Advent 8:30 Services.

To our outgoing Church Council:

Bryan Byrd, Paul Pausick,
James Turney, Jerry Long,
Caitlin Pettijohn

To 21 men who came Monday morning to move Pastor Cockran.

2021 Financial

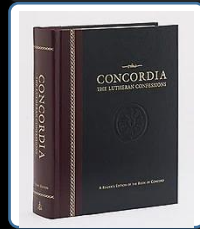
Full report posted in Church Office.
Less Dedicated Gifts/Expenses,

Through end of November:

Budget \$341,211

Offerings \$378,428

Expenses \$328,147



Book of Concord Study

Sunday, Jan. 30, 6 pm

Join us any time. All welcome to come for an evening of enrichment in our Lutheran doctrine and Scriptural engagements, food, & refreshments. Childcare provided.

Usually last Sunday evening of the month.



Trail Life™

Christian scouting, ages 5-17
2nd & 4th Thursday, 6:30 pm
Patrick Budy 913-634-5410



LutheransForLife.org

"Every human life, no matter the size, level of dependency, environment, or degree of dependency, is indispensable in fulfilling God's plans. The Lord called all things into being, from the greatest to the least, with His mighty mere Word. But He formed the human bodies with His own fingers and His very breath. He lovingly, intimately, and meticulously knits us together in our mothers' wombs."

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There you find event calendar, sermons, bulletins, newsletter and more!