

# *Covenant News*



September 2021

## *Steve's Spin*



In trying to decide what to write about after being honored with Pastors' request that I handle this edition of our bulletin, I was reviewing various September devotionals regarding Holy Cross Day. I came across the reference to Corinthians 1, 18-24, which professes that the cross is the power of God to those who are being saved.

Of particular interest to me is the wording of this passage as translated in the Holman Christian Standard Bible (HCSB). It includes the following for line 19: “*I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and I will set aside the understanding of the experts*”.

Christ is God's power and God's wisdom. To those of us who “are called”, the basic meaning of this becomes all the more clear in the context of the times we are living in today.

The pandemic has reformulated, and sprung to new heights in recent weeks. The economy is on an inflation binge which almost seems to mirror the spike in new

Co-vid cases. An adjacent 'spike' is occurring along our southern border, with repercussions on both the pandemic and the economies of many of our local communities. Our education system and our military structure struggle with the question of whether or not to restructure history as redress for the follies of our past.

And, all of these are currently being managed by “experts”. “Experts” proclaim that we must “follow the science”. Regardless of vaccination status, we are urged to mask and to distance. Our social interactions have been profoundly affected by distrust of both the vaccine and of those who object to it.

Immigration from many parts of the world through our southern border is managed by government officials whose 'expertise' leads them to issue proclamations that the border is 'closed'.

Proponents of 'critical race theory' exclaim that it is “science” , as it originally was taught in law schools. It has provided the basis for identifying supporters of the former administration as similarly as dangerous as foreign terrorists.

As we proceed through these difficult times, it is important for all of us, including our political and corporate leaders, to remember that: *Hasn't God made the wisdom of the world foolish? God wisely planned that the world would not know him through its own wisdom. It pleased God to use the foolish things we preach to save those who believe.*

The folly of 'science' has always been its use as a tool for those in power to subjugate and to divide us. We must all remember that our faith is our strength, and that the message and the power of the cross is the only 'science' that can attain our salvation.

*Some thoughts from Stephen Dobush, filling in for Pastor Ross for our September newsletter*

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## *September Birthdays*

9/2 William Mendat  
9/10 Phyllis Treichel  
9/11 Doris Akerley  
9/16 Barb Gaglione  
9/16 Jason Lanese

9/22 Madeline Ptak  
9/26 Allan Treichel  
9/28 Nancy Werner  
9/28 Ethan Lockmiller  
9/29 Evan Bernardo



9/8 Carolyn & Ken Frajter  
Happy 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

9/21 Gwen & Tom Susanek  
Happy 24<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary

9/29 Bishop Abraham Allende & Linda Godhardt Allende  
Happy 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



### Worship at Covenant

On Sunday, September 12, we will return inside to the sanctuary for worship going forward. Masks will not be required, and we will sing together as well, as we gradually add more to our worship in praising God together as one community of faith!



There has been planning for Covenant to have our annual Rummage Sale. I am thinking the dates should be later in September or beginning of October. Please start dropping off items at the ramp door to unload on the stage after the weekend of September 11<sup>th</sup>. Thanks Jen.

Siblings in Christ of Covenant,

It is with the most heartfelt appreciation that we extend this thank you to all of you for your most generous gift in helping us with the birth of our twins, Owen and Ellie! Your sincere kindness is truly humbling, showing us that we are indeed surrounded by a loving and dedicated body of Christ. Plenty of diapers and wipes and clothes and much, much more are needed for the two of them, so your gift certainly helps, to say the least! We are deeply grateful for sure. Thanks, again, and blessings to all of you!

In Christ,  
Sarah & Pastor Brad





“Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress” (Psalm 71:3).

Dear friends,

The headlines are filled with the devastation from Hurricane Ida, which made landfall near New Orleans on Aug. 30 — exactly 16 years after Hurricane Katrina. As a strong Category 4 storm, Hurricane Ida’s 150 mph winds,

torrential rain and strong storm surge caused widespread flooding and wind damage in southeastern Louisiana and coastal Mississippi. Homes are flooded and residents are awaiting rescue, which is hampered by the high waters and debris-clogged roads. Strong winds knocked out power lines and electrical substations, leaving more than 1 million people without power, including the entirety of New Orleans. In some areas, electricity is not expected to be restored for weeks. Ida weakened into a tropical storm as it moved inland and will likely cause heavy flooding in Mississippi, Alabama, and the Tennessee and Upper Ohio valleys.

The impact of Ida is yet to be fully assessed, but with a hurricane of this scale, rebuilding will be costly and take years. With extensive experience in accompanying communities throughout the relief and long-term recovery phases, Lutheran Disaster Response is working with local ELCA synods and Lutheran social service organizations to coordinate a response to Hurricane Ida. Immediate needs will include food, basic necessities and temporary housing. Long after the headlines change, Lutheran Disaster Response will continue to accompany communities on the journey of rebuilding their homes and lives.

[Your gifts will support survivors of Hurricane Ida. Gifts to "U.S. Hurricanes" will be used in full \(100%\) to assist those affected by hurricanes until the response is complete.](#)

We pray that God’s presence will be felt in the midst of suffering and bring comfort to those who are hurting. Together, we can show our neighbors that they are not alone.  
In Christ’s service,

The Rev. Daniel Rift  
Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response Fund  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

*The Lutheran Church of the Covenant*  
**September 2021**

Server Schedule	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:30 Women's AA meeting in Parish Hall	2	3 6:30-8:00 pm GOD AA meeting in Parish Hall	4 3:00 pm Women's AA meeting in Hall 5:00 Worship in Sanctuary
AG: Joan Garvin, Marie Zahn, Jen Garberich	5 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 Eucharist in Parking Lot	6 Office Closed for Labor Day	7 Worship & Music Meeting	8 6:30 Women's AA meeting in Parish Hall	9	10 6:30-8:00 pm GOD AA meeting in Parish Hall	11 10:00-12:00 Basic Adult Sewing Class (Sharon Steward) 3:00 pm Women's AA meeting in Parish Hall
AG: Claudia Sanderak, Jean Rusher, Gwen Susanek	12 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 Eucharist in Sanctuary	13	14 7:00 Council Meeting in Parlor	15 6:30 Women's AA meeting in Parish Hall	16	17 6:30-8:00 pm GOD AA meeting in Parish Hall	18 3:00 pm Women's AA meeting in Hall 5:00 Worship in Sanctuary
AG: Claudia, Snderak, Jean Rusher, Gwen Susanek	19 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 Eucharist in Sanctuary	20	21	22 6:30 Women's AA meeting in Parish Hall	23 4:30-6:00 pm Community Meal Drive Thru in Parking Lot	24 6:30-8:00 pm GOD AA meeting in Parish Hall	25 3:00 pm Women's AA meeting in Parish Hall
AG: Sheila Werner, Annie Copeland, Paula Hohenstein	26 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 Eucharist in Sanctuary	27	28	29 6:30 Women's AA meeting in Parish Hall	30	Oct 1	Oct 2

# Covenant News

The Lutheran Church of the Covenant  
19000 Libby Road, Maple Heights, Ohio 44137

Can you guess where this picture was taken from.

