

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEK OF AUGUST 8, 2021

IN OUR PRAYERS: Ashlyn; Jim Cleveland; Emily Slone; Ralph Hammel; Ralph & Brenda LeFever; Barb Myers; Carolyn Wilkins; Darlene Welsh; Ken Lahrman

CHURCH PICNIC: TODAY! Sunday, August 8, at 12:00pm. Meat and drinks provided! Bring a dish to pass. Hope you can join us!

VBS: this Tuesday, August 10, beginning at 5:30pm. Sign up by the doors!

YOUTH GROUP: we're thinking Sunday, Aug. 22. Where should we go?

NEW BIBLE STUDIES: we would like to offer more opportunities for Bible study during the week (e.g., a men's group, a women's group, a Book of Concord study, etc.). Interested? What days and times work best? What would you like to learn more about? Let Pastor or Vicar know!

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION: please fill out one of the half-sheets on the tables. Or, you can call/email the church office or Pr. Mullet.

LIFE TEAM INTEREST: is anyone interested in joining a Life Team or starting our own? See Pr. Mullet or Sem. Woodhouse for more info. We are hoping to get moving on this soon! Stay tuned for details.

CALENDAR

Sun. Aug. 8 (Trinity 10)	8:00 & 10:00am Worship 9:00am Bible Study 12:00pm Church Picnic
Tue. Aug. 10	5:30pm VBS
Wed. Aug. 11	7:00pm Holy Communion
Thu. Aug. 12	7:00pm Bible Study
Sun. Aug. 15 (St. Mary)	8:00 & 10:00am Holy Communion 9:00am Bible Study

THE BACK PAGE

Today's Hymn of the Day, "The Church's One Foundation," helps bring clarity to these tumultuous times. Written by Samuel J. Stone and first published in 1866, it has undergone various changes over the years, expanding all the way to ten stanzas at one point before being reduced to seven and finally to the five we sing this morning.

The first stanza begins with the only foundation on which anyone can build: Jesus Christ. For it is He who created the Church by Holy Baptism and the Word of God. We did not seek after Him, but He came to us, bought us with His own blood, made us to be His bride.

The second stanza calls upon the language of St. Paul from Ephesians 4. God calls Christians from every nation, race, time, and place, and yet in Christ we are one Church (one Lord, one faith, one birth in Holy Baptism). Amid the fallenness of the world the Church praises the only name that saves, eats the holy food of Christ's own body and blood, and serves the Lord with the sure and certain hope of the resurrection.

Stanzas three, four, and five take a more "earthly" turn, as the hymn begins to reflect on what is called the Church Militant—the Church on Earth, in the battlefield of this earthly life. The world sees us persecuted, divided into different denominations, challenged by heresies and false teachings. So do the saints cry out "How long?" as we all await the morn of song at Jesus' glorious return.

There is much nowadays that makes us afraid. Afraid to be "out-loud" Christians, afraid to come to church, afraid to do much of anything, sometimes. And the devil, the world, and our own flesh only encourage this fear. But faith overcomes fear. For our faith is in the One who has overcome the world. Do not be afraid! Delta and Lambda cannot take you from the Father's hand. Cling to Jesus! Come to church! Be not afraid. Take heart in these words from an old stanza of "The Church's One Foundation," which is not found in our hymnal:

*The Church shall never perish! Her dear Lord to defend,
To guide, sustain, and cherish, Is with her to the end:
Though there be those who hate her, And false sons in her pale,
Against or foe or traitor She ever shall prevail.*