

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WEEK OF AUGUST 29, 2021

**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Ashlyn; Jim Cleveland; Emily Slone; Barb Myers; Carolyn Wilkins; Judie Spencer; Jack Vaught; Cyrus; Megan Mullet; Mike; Dave Perl; Afghan Christians; the nation of Haiti & the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Haiti

**SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS** Sunday, Sep. 12! We will celebrate with ice cream and other light refreshments after the second service. Join us!

**CONFIRMATION** will begin Sunday, Sep. 12, at 11:30am. **Parents, please plan to attend this first session!**

**Q & A SESSION** regarding service times and weekly communion next Sunday, Sep. 5, between services during Bible study hour.

**NEW BIBLE STUDIES:** we would like to offer more opportunities for Bible study during the week. Interested? Let Pastor or Vicar know!

**PHOTOS FOR NEW DIRECTORY:** we will have a photographer at church on Wednesday, Sept. 15; Sunday, Sept. 19; and Sunday, Oct. 3.

**GOLF OUTING:** Saturday, Oct. 9, at Eagle Glen in CC. It's a fundraiser for Woodlands Senior Activity Center. Ask Pr. Mullet for more info!

**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.

**PASTOR & MEGAN TO ATLANTA:** I'm reachable by phone. Please keep us in prayer. If you need *immediate in-person pastoral care* call Vicar Woelmer (214-218-8354) or Pr. Burgland (260-417-6753).

### CALENDAR

Sun. Aug. 29 (Martyrdom of John)	8:00 & 10:00am Worship 9:00am Bible Study
Wed. Sep. 1	7:00pm Worship
Thu. Sep. 2	7:00pm Bible Study
Sun. Sep. 5 (Trinity 14)	8:00 & 10:00am Holy Communion 9:00am Q & A Session

## THE BACK PAGE

A devotional writing from Martin Luther:

*The Lord was very angry with your ancestors. Tell the people, "This is what the LORD of Armies says: Return to me, declares the LORD of Armies, and I will return to you."*

Zechariah 1:2-3

In this passage, we see that Zechariah's message was primarily concerned with belief and unbelief. He pointed out that the greatest sin of the Israelites' ancestors was not trusting in God when they were undergoing trials. Rather, they looked to other people for help. In this way, they were rebellious and idolatrous. Zechariah wanted the people of Israel to understand that the words "return to me" should penetrate their hearts deeply.

A person "returns to God" when he trusts in and finds comfort in God at all times, especially in times of need. On the other hand, a person has turned away from God when he doesn't trust in God. When someone doesn't trust God, his good works and sacrifices won't be able to help him. This is what happened to Israel's ancestors.

In Zechariah's time, when the Israelites were trying to rebuild the temple, they needed to turn to the Lord of Armies because of all the trials and troubles they were facing. They had to cling to God and depend on him even in rebuilding the temple angered the emperor of Persia or the neighboring people. God spoke. He wanted to help, could help, and would help them so that Israel's enemies wouldn't overpower them again.

We, too, need to hear these warnings in the book of Zechariah. Let everyone return to Christ, cling to him, and not fall away. Let no one become scared or be led astray. God speaks. And God will do what he says.

Devotion for August 29 from *Through Faith Alone: 365 Devotional Readings from Martin Luther*. St. Louis, MO: CPH, 1999.