

ANNOUNCEMENTS
WEEK OF JANUARY 30, 2022

IN OUR PRAYERS: Jim Cleveland; Carolyn Wilkins; Jack & Lureen Vaught; Tony Sikora; Cindy; Aiden Snyder

PASTOR AT RETREAT: Pr. Mullet will be attending a retreat in Plymouth, IN this week, leaving Mon. afternoon and returning Thu. afternoon. Emergencies requiring immediate pastoral care should be directed to Vicar Woelmer.

MEN'S GROUP: our Men's Group will meet at 8:00am on Saturday, February 12. We'll have breakfast, a short bible study, and time for fellowship. Join us!

ADULT INSTRUCTION CLASS: Pastor will be holding a class for those interested in joining our church on Sunday mornings between services beginning **Feb. 13**. All are highly encouraged to join us for a refresher! It's also a good way to welcome our newcomers! Please pass this info around to any who might be interested!!

NEW STUDY & WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES continue this week! Join us for Greek (Tue. 8:30am); the Psalms (Tue. 3:00pm); Matins (Wed. 8:30am); the Book of Concord (Wed. 9:00am); and Galatians (Thu. 7:00pm)!

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE at Faith on Thursday, Feb. 3, from 1-6pm.

CALENDAR

Sun. Jan. 30 (Epiphany 4)	8:00 & 10:00am Divine Service 9:00am Sunday School / Bible Study 11:30am Confirmation
[<i>Mon. – Thu.</i> Tue. Feb. 1	<i>Pr. Mullet in Plymouth]</i> 8:30am Greek Study 3:00pm Bible Study (Psalms)
Wed. Feb. 2	8:30am Matins 9:00am Book of Concord Study 7:00pm Divine Service
Thu. Feb. 3	1 – 6pm Blood Drive 7:00pm Bible Study (Galatians)
Sun. Feb. 6 (Transfiguration)	8:00 & 10:00am Divine Service 9:00am Sunday School / Bible Study 11:30am Confirmation

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I wanted to use this space to tell you a bit about the retreat I'm attending this week, and more importantly to thank you for your support.

DOXOLOGY “provides a safe environment for clergy to reflect on their own spiritual and emotional health and assists them to review and enhance their professional competencies and skills as servants of Christ and stewards of God’s sacred mysteries.”
(website: doxology.us)

You can see from their description that DOXOLOGY retreats have two main aspects: first, the overall spiritual and emotional health of the pastor; and second, training in pastoral skills such as counseling. A DOXOLOGY retreat is a nice combination of what we think of as a “retreat” and what we might think of as “continuing education.” The overarching goal is for the pastor to return refreshed, renewed, and ready to serve the congregation even better than he did before.

(The DOXOLOGY retreat that I'm enrolled in actually has three parts, with the second and third parts taking place in June and August. More about those at a later date!)

Now to the more important part: thanking you for your support. This retreat is not inexpensive, and I am grateful that the church council saw it as a worthwhile investment. This sort of retreat is helpful for pastors not only in “retreating” but also in training, improving their skills, and having time to enjoy fellowship with other pastors.

As I told the council a few months ago, I fully intend to be your pastor for another 40-50 years. God may have other plans, but that's mine until He tells me otherwise! You are my people. As such, I want to be the absolute best pastor I can be for you and your families. This retreat will help me to do that.

Again, thank you so much for your ongoing support, both for me and my family. We are blessed to serve such a caring congregation!