

# ***Announcements***

◆ A warm welcome to all our visitors and guests, friends both old and new. We pray that God has blessed your time among us with His Word and Holy Spirit. We cordially invite you to join us this morning for coffee and other refreshments downstairs following the Divine Service; and we ask that you please sign the guest book at the back of the church.

◆ Following coffee & refreshments, our Family Bible Class continues a study of First Samuel. Parents and children, youth and adults are welcome and encouraged to attend and participate in this class together. (Catechesis class for the younger catechumens also meets during this same time.)

Care for the younger children (under four years of age) is provided in the nursery downstairs, so their parents and families are able to attend the class.

◆ Sandra Rhein will be returning to South Bend from Kenya the latter part of this week. Please continue to pray for her, as she is working on the hymnal project these next several days yet, and as she is then traveling homeward. Our sincere thanks to Rob Rhein for serving as our organist this morning.

◆ Throughout the sacred season of Lent, in addition to the usual Vespers on Monday evenings, we will be gathered for Lenten Vespers each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m., and for a brief spoken Divine Service each Friday at 9:00 a.m.

As in past years, there will be soup supper served prior to the Wednesday evening Vespers, from 5:30 until 6:30 p.m. One and all are welcome to enjoy the good soup and to share that opportunity for fraternal fellowship.

◆ Pastor Grobien will be vested and available in the Emmaus Sanctuary for Individual Confession and Absolution this Saturday (13 March) from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. This means of grace and forgiveness is freely offered to be freely received in repentant faith. Those with questions concerning this Christian practice are urged to review the Fifth Chief Part of the Catechism, and are invited to speak with Pastor about it any time.

◆ LADIES OF EMMAUS, PLEASE NOTE: The Women's Service League will be collecting LWML Mites next Sunday (14 March), and will be collecting donations for the Seminary Food Bank on the following Sunday (21 March).

◆ COLLECTIONS FOR 28 FEBRUARY 2010: \$2328.00

In order to meet our financial obligations and commitments, an average of \$1940 is needed each week.

- ◆ **IN THE LORD'S SERVICE THIS MORNING:**  
(ELDER) Eldon Knepp; (USHERS) Nathaniel Rhein & Nicholai Stuckwisch; (ACOLYTE) Ariksander Stuckwisch; (ORGANIST) Robert Rhein; (GREETERS) Marilyn Dulmatch & Betty Saenz.
- ◆ Rev. D. Richard Stuckwisch, Pastor      Home Phone: (574) 233 – 0574
- ◆ Rev. Gifford Grobien, Assistant Pastor      Home Phone: (574) 231 – 9572

## ***On the Epistle to the Galatians***

*“He who sows to the flesh will from the flesh reap corruption; but he who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life’ (Galatians 6:8). Here Paul adds a metaphor and an allegory. He applies the general statement about sowing to the particular case of providing for ministers, saying: ‘He who sows to the Spirit, that is, he who provides for preachers of the Word, performs a spiritual work and will reap eternal life.’ It is extremely necessary, following Paul’s example, to exhort believers to do good works, that is, to exercise their faith through good works; for unless these works follows faith, that is the surest possible sign that the faith is not genuine.*

*“The Encratites abused this passage to support their fanatical opinion against marriage and interpreted it this way: ‘He who sows to the flesh will reap corruption; that is, he who marries will be damned. Therefore a wife is something damnable, and marriage is evil, because in it there is sowing to the flesh.’ Those foul beasts were so utterly devoid of judgment that they did not see what the Apostle was talking about. Let us arm ourselves against these errors and others like them, and let us learn to grasp the genuine meaning of Scripture. As any man with plain common sense can see, Paul is not speaking about marriage; he is speaking about support for the ministers of the churches. And although this support is material, he still calls it ‘sowing to the Spirit.’ On the other hand, he calls scraping for money and looking out for oneself ‘sowing to the flesh.’ He pronounces the former blessed both in this life and in the life to come, but the latter he pronounces accursed both in this life and in the life to come.*

*“And let us not grow weary in well-doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart’ (Gal. 6:9). As Paul is about to conclude the Epistle, he passes from the particular to the general and exhorts us in general to all good works, as though he were saying: ‘Let us be liberal and kind, not only toward the ministers of the Word but toward all men; and let us not grow weary.’*

*“For it is easy to do good once or twice, but to stay with it and not to be overcome by the ingratitude or malice of those you are helping — this is work and labor. Therefore he exhorts us not only to do good but also not to grow weary in doing good. To persuade us of this more easily, he adds: ‘For in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart.’ It is as though he were saying: ‘Watch and wait for the eternal harvest that it to come. Then no human ingratitude or malice will be able to dissuade you from well-doing. In the time of harvest you will receive the most abundant fruit from your sowing.’ With these sweet words he exhorts the faithful to do good works.*

*“So, then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all men, and especially to those who are of the household of faith’ (Gal. 6:10). This is the conclusion of Paul’s exhortation about the liberal support of the ministers of the churches and about generous contributions to all who are in need. It is as though he were saying: ‘Let us do good while it is day; for when the night comes, we cannot work’ (John 9:4). When the light of truth is taken away, men do indeed perform many works; but it is all in vain, because those who walk in the darkness do not know where they are going. Therefore their whole life, work, suffering, and death are in vain. With these words he obliquely stabs the Galatians, as though he were saying: ‘Unless you abide in the sound doctrine which you have received from me, it will not do you any good to perform many good works, to endure suffering, etc.’ Thus he said earlier: ‘You experience so many things in vain’ (Gal. 3:4). ‘The household of faith’ is a new phrase to designate those who belong to our fellowship of faith; first among these are the ministers of the Word, and then other believers.*

*“See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand’ (Galatians 3:11). Paul concludes the Epistle with an exhortation to his readers and a sharp rebuke or invective against the false apostles.*

*“Earlier he had cursed and anathematized them, but now he repeats this. Yet he accuses them seriously with other words, to deter the Galatians and call them back from the authority of the false apostles. ‘You have the sort of teachers,’ he says, ‘who (1) seek only their own glory, (2) run away from persecution, and (3) neither understand nor carry out in their own practice what they teach.’ If anyone, especially an Apostle, recommended a preacher on the basis of these three virtues, such a preacher would deserve to be avoided by everyone. But not all the Galatians heeded this warning of Paul’s. Paul is not slandering the false apostles when he inveighs against them so vehemently; he is judging them by his apostolic authority.”*

**(From Dr. Martin Luther’s Lectures on Galatians, A.D. 1535)**

# ***Walking with Our Savior this Week***

**TODAY**                      **Divine Service of Communion**                      **9:00 a.m.**

Coffee & Refreshments                      10:30 a.m.

Catechesis / Bible Class                      10:45 a.m.

**MONDAY**                      ***Vespers***                      ***7:00 p.m.***

Bible Class                      7:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY**                      Board of Elders                      6:00 p.m.

Church Council                      7:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY**                      Soup Supper                      5:30—6:30

***Lenten Vespers***                      ***7:00 p.m.***

**THURSDAY**                      *Pastor's Family Day (but do call in cases of emergency)*

*Sandra Rhein returning from Kenya to South Bend*

**FRIDAY**                      ***Brief Spoken Divine Service***                      ***9:00 a.m.***

**SATURDAY**                      Individual Confession & Absolution                      5:00—7:00

**NEXT SUNDAY**                      **Divine Service of Communion**                      **9:00 a.m.**

Coffee & Refreshments                      10:30 a.m.

Catechesis / Bible Class                      10:45 a.m.

*You may also want to keep in mind, in your observance of daily prayer at home:*

***The Appointed Readings for next Sunday, the Fourth Sunday in Lent:  
Isaiah 12:1–6; 2 Corinthians 5:16–21; and St. Luke 15:1–3, 11–32***