

LOVE NOTES

CHEERS

Cheers to all our members and friends who have survived this continual pandemic! When we can open our doors to worship together is still questionable as Hidalgo County has not reached phase 1 yet and Bishop Briner has not given the okay. When we do open, many rules will be established for us to follow. These will be posted later.

We do have a Supply Pastor to lead us in Sunday services once we receive permission to begin. Pastor Erbey Gonzales is a native Texan, grew up in Lyford, is a retired Pastor, teacher, Chaplain who lives here in Weslaco. He will preach 3 Sundays a month and a guest Pastor will do the 4th Sunday.

This means we as a congregation must

come together to provide ministry needs. We need volunteers for the following:

1. Compile the history of our church;
2. Schedule special music for Sunday services;
3. Assume the prayer chain;
4. Visit/call the home bound.

If you can assist in any of these projects, please call Shirley Nelson at

956 358 6690 or the Church office at 956 4471337. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Remember: All lives matter and God loves all lives. Love your neighbor. Submitted by Shirley Nelson

You're allowed to be disappointed. You're allowed to be angry.

You're allowed to be scared. You're allowed to cry

But you are not allowed to give up.

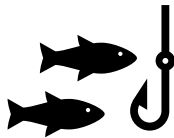
SEEING AHEAD

Devotional taken from GOD'S LITTLE DEVOTIONAL BIBLE.

For weeks, eight-year-old Susie had been looking forward to a particular Saturday fishing trip with her dad. But when the day finally arrived, it was raining.

Susie wandered around the house all morning grumbling as she peered out the windows, "Seems like the Lord would know it would have been better to have the rain yesterday than today." Her father tried to explain how important the rain was to the farmers and gardeners. But Susie only replied, "It just isn't fair."

Around three o'clock, the rain stopped. There was still time for fishing, so father and daughter quickly loaded their gear and headed for the lake. Because of the rainstorm, the fish were really biting. Within a couple of hours, they returned with a full stringer of fish.



At the family's "fish dinner" that night, Susie was asked to say grace. She concluded her prayer by saying, "And Lord, if I sounder grumpy earlier today, it was because I couldn't see far enough ahead."

During these troubled and trying times we are now living though; we must remember that "we couldn't see far enough ahead.

"No eye has seen, Nor ear heard, Nor the heart of man conceived, What God has prepared for those who love Him.1 Corinthians 2:9

(Notice the future tense, has prepared)

HERE IS SOMETHING BIBLICAL TO PONDER TODAY!

40 days The flood lasted
40 years Moses fled Egypt
40 days Moses stayed on the mount to get the 10 Commandments
40 years Exodus lasted
40 days Jesus fasted
40 days between Lent and Easter
40 days tell the woman to rest after giving birth.
So, what about the Bible and the number 40? Remember that we are in the year 2020 (20 + 20 = 40)
40 days for the spiritual liberation of our nation.

During quarantine, rivers are cleaning up, vegetation is growing, the air is cleaner because of less pollution, less theft, less murders, families are bonding again, eating at the table, we are praying more for our neighbors, the Earth is at rest for the first time in many years. Surely you can see God has not forsaken us! I believe he is preparing us!!

In the Bible, whenever the number 40 appears there is a "change" during that time, no matter how horrible that time may have been. So, enjoy it and return to the family altar together, it will be of great blessing, and you will see the changes that God can work in you & your family!

So, this is the time to pray like never before! God is giving us all a chance for renewal of our faith, to come back to him as ONE NATION UNDER GOD!!

Submitted by Sharon Newcomer

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We pray especially for **Carrie** Anderson (cousin of Dean Garnett), **Eloy Avila III**, **Reb & Heather** Baker (son and daughter-in-law of Will & Anne Baker), **James** Boese (brother of Sharon Newcomer), **Ethan** Bowen (brother of John Bowen), **John** Bowen, **Bill** Brandt (Faith Lutheran Church), **Renate** Chamberlain, **Thelma** Dutenhoeffer, **Pastor Sylvia** De La Garza, **Tim** Foor (son-in-law of Betty Piper), **Geoffrey** (grandson of Lee and Mary Nelson), **Greg** Gieseke, **The Family of Teona** Henry, **Carole & Dave** Kangas, **Vince & Arlene** Lange, **Donna** Lidtke, **Cheryl** Long (sister of Bonnie Cahoon), **The Family of Marjorie** Marzolf, **Maria** Mendoza, **Anita** Nelson, **Evelyn** Nelson, **Joyce & Paul** Obst (Friends of C.B. & Jerry Shields), **H. Shannon** Phillips (visitor), **Ed** Puder, **Sidney** Pugh (granddaughter of John & Shirley Bowen), **Ann** Round (friend of Maria Mendoza), **Ryan** Rounds (son of Marilyn Rounds), **Naomi** Schontz (Faith Lutheran Church), **Jerry** Shields, **Sandford** Sill, **Staff and children of Runn School**, **Betsy** Sutton, **Don** Van Deest, **Lou** Vitek, **Elaine** Wisely (daughter of Lou Vitek), **people experiencing violence in their lives, all the men and women of the police, fire, EMS, Front Line Workers and all the men and women of the Armed Forces and their families.**



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

STEWARTSHIP THOUGHTS

Several years ago, our Mobile Home/RV Parks were full; today they are not. Our Love of Christ winter congregation was over 300 people; today we are nearer 200. People are not coming to The Valley as they were. Love of Christ is and always has been a very loving and giving congregation. Do we stop giving or do we dig a little deeper in our pockets to donate a bit more? Years ago, \$1.00 would buy 20 cups of coffee, 5 packs of cigarettes, 20 packs of gum...you get the idea.

Today (written in 2018) our dollar is worth approximately 5 cents. Each week we report our offering total. If each person giving \$1.00 in the summer our total would be \$44.00 per week; in the winter approximately \$200. We thank those who are pledging, and we know that it can be a challenge. Without you we could not continue. If we all could give just a few dollars more, this could be corrected, and we could continue our mission projects. There is such great need here in South Texas and much of our giving stays here.

We welcome your thoughts in this matter as well as your prayers. Somewhere in our budget there will need to be changes. Where will they be and what shall we do?

Submitted by Chuck Sornson



"If telemarketers call, invite them to church."

WILL YOU GIVE THIS TO MY DADDY?

As a Company, Southwest Airlines is going to support **'Red Fridays'**.

Last week I was in Atlanta, Georgia attending a conference. While I was in the airport returning home, I heard several people behind me beginning to clap and cheer. I immediately turned around and witnessed one of the greatest acts of patriotism I have ever seen.

Moving through the terminal was a group of soldiers in their camos. As they began heading to their gate, everyone (well almost everyone) was abruptly to their feet with their hands waving and cheering.

When I saw the soldiers, probably 30-40 of them, being applauded and cheered for, it hit me. I'm not alone. I'm not the only **red**-blooded American who still loves this country and supports our troops and their families.

Of course, I immediately stopped and began clapping for these young unsung heroes who are putting their lives on the line every day for us so we can go to school, work and home without fear of reprisal.

Just when I thought I could not be prouder of my country or of our service men and women, a young girl, not more than 6 or 7 years old, ran up to one of the male soldiers. He kneeled down and said 'hi.'

The little girl then asked him if he would give something to her daddy for her.

The young soldier, who didn't look any older than maybe 22 himself, said he would try and what did she want to give to her Daddy. Then suddenly the little girl grabbed the neck of this soldier, gave him the biggest hug she could muster and then kissed him on the cheek.

The mother of the little girl, who said her daughter's name was Courtney, told the young soldier that her husband



was a Marine and had been in Iraq for 11 months now. As the mom was explaining how much her daughter Courtney missed her father, the young soldier began to tear up.

When this temporarily single mom was done explaining her situation, all of the soldiers huddled together for a brief second. Then one of the other servicemen pulled out a military-looking walkie-talkie. They started playing with the device and talking back and forth on it.

After about 10-15 seconds of this, the young soldier walked back over to Courtney, bent down and said this to her, 'I spoke to your daddy and he told me to give this to you...' He then hugged this little girl that he had just met and gave her a kiss on the cheek. He finished by saying 'your daddy told me to tell you that he loves you more than anything and he is coming home very soon.' The mom at this point was crying almost uncontrollably and as the young soldier stood to his feet, he saluted Courtney and her mom. I was standing no more than 6 feet away from this entire event.

As the soldiers began to leave, heading towards their gate, people resumed their applause. As I stood there applauding and looked around, there were very few dry eyes, including my own. That young soldier in one last act of selflessness, turned around and blew a kiss to Courtney with a tear rolling down his cheek.

We need to remember everyday all of our soldiers and their families and thank God for them and their sacrifices. At the end of the day, it's good to be an American.

RED FRIDAYS ----- Very soon, you will see a great many people wearing **Red** every Friday. The reason? Americans who support our troops used to be called the 'silent majority'. We are no longer silent, and are voicing our love for God, country, and home in record breaking numbers.

We are not organized, boisterous or over-bearing. We get no liberal media coverage on TV, to reflect our message or our opinions. Many Americans, like you, me and all our friends, simply want to recognize that the vast majority of Americans support our troops.

Our idea of showing solidarity and support for our troops with dignity and respect starts **this Friday and continues each and every Friday until the troops all come home**, sending a deafening message that every **red-blooded** American who supports our men and women afar will wear something **red**.

By word of mouth, press, TV -- let's make the United States on every Friday a sea of

red much like a homecoming football game in the bleachers. If every one of us who loves this country will share this with acquaintances, co-workers, friends, and family. It will not be long before the USA is covered in **RED** and it will let our troops know the once 'silent' majority is on their side more than ever; certainly, more than the media lets on.

The first thing a soldier says when asked 'What can we do to make things better for you?' is...We need your support and your prayers.

Let's get the word out and lead with class and dignity, by example and wear something **red** every Friday.

WE LIVE IN THE LAND OF THE FREE, ONLY BECAUSE OF THE BRAVE. THEIR BLOOD RUNS RED---- SO WEAR RED! --- MAY GOD HELP AMERICA TO BECOME ONE NATION, UNDER GOD.

Submitted by Pastor Gene Hasselquist



LOVE OF CHRIST HISTORY

Love of Christ came into being in the summer of 1997, when a small group of people, both full time Rio Grande Valley residents and part time residents, or “ Winter Texans” as they are sometimes called, began discussing the idea of establishing a new Lutheran congregation in the Weslaco / Mid Valley area. The name “Love of Christ” was chosen to express to the community that the love of Christ dwells in and among us. This idea is encapsulated in our mission statement:

“Christ living and loving through us!”

On June 22, 1997, the first worship service was held in the home of one of those original founding worshipers, with 24 people in attendance. By the end of the first summer, the group had grown to need a larger space for worship and with the support and encouragement of people locally, as well as Winter Texan friends in the North; two important steps were taken in September of 1997. First, the congregation moved into larger quarters, sharing the facilities of First Presbyterian Church of Weslaco. Secondly, the congregation sought, and was given, “Authorized Worshipping Community” status by the synod. The stage was set for greater things to come.

Over the next five years, love of Christ continued to grow in worship attendance, especially during the months when so many Winter Texans return to the Rio Grande Valley. Word of this new Lutheran congregation began to spread, and between October and April each year, the church became more and more full each weekend. December, January, and February are usually the highest attended months, with attendance figures topping out between 250

– 350 people each weekend.

On September 14, 2002, exactly five years from the first worship service held at First Presbyterian, by approval of the Synod Council of the Southwestern Texas Synod, Love of Christ Lutheran Church became the 178th congregation of the synod. On February 2, 2003, The Reverend Doctor Ray Tiemann, Bishop of the Southwestern Texas Synod, presided at the Charter Sunday worship service and celebration. A new congregation, a new community of faith, had been born.

In the year 2006 it was determined that both First Presbyterian Church and Love of Christ Lutheran Church had grown so much in members and in programs that another move for Love of Christ was needed. Love of Christ had grown to enjoy so much its relations with their Presbyterian brothers and sisters, but in order to continue to grow a move to more space was required. On September 3, 2006, at the invitation of Faith Lutheran Church of Weslaco, Love of Christ Lutheran Church held its first worship service and therefore began another chapter in its life

AFFILIATION

Love of Christ Lutheran Church is a member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, (E.L.C.A.), a five million plus member expression of Lutherans in the United States. As such, we are part of the Southwestern Texas Synod, one of the sixty-five synods, in nine geographical regions, across North America, and the Rio Grande Valley Conference, within the Southwestern Texas Synod.



September Anniversaries

- 06 Patricia & Wayne Winter
- 08 Jan & Robert Slade
- 17 John & Shirley Bowen
- 27 Leola & Paul Anderson
- 30 Donness & Marvin Dietz

October Anniversaries

- 13 Joyce & Rich Klindt
- 21 James & Kathy Whitney
- 23 Bob & Judy Bradshaw
- 25 Anita & Dick Nelson
- 26 Barb & Don Rilley

November Anniversaries

- 09 Jenna & Michael Gutierrez
- 18 Helen & Orville Schultz
- 22 Linda & Rex Kirchhoff
- 26 Margaret & Richard Twait
- 26 Jon & LuRae Schwartz

September Birthdays

- 01 Amy Van Deest
- 02 Leola Anderson
- 05 Raye Chandler
- 05 Gloria Jensen
- 07 Barbara Laursen
- 10 Anne Baker
- 11 Orville Schultz
- 13 Jim Magruder
- 14 Thelma Dutenhoeffer
- 15 Mildred Alewine-Brautigam
- 15 Sam Learned
- 17 LuRae Schwartz
- 19 Dean Garnett

- 22 Carolyn Buswell
- 23 Beverly McKibben
- 25 Patricia Winter
- 26 Lyle Jaegler
- 28 Catherine Sederquist

October Birthdays

- 01 Anita Nelson
- 03 Renate Chamberlain
- 07 Shirley Nelson
- 11 Vincent Lange
- 12 Bob Degener
- 13 Bonnie Vollmar
- 16 Paul Anderson
- 17 Marcy Shoemaker
- 19 Sylvia De La Garza
- 22 Mary Ann Hennigar
- 23 Barbara Krambeer
- 24 Darla Chaloupek
- 27 Jeff Shoemaker
- 28 Jim Thalacker
- 28 Margaret Twait
- 28 Forrest Zemlicka
- 29 Elaine Magnuson
- 29 Betty Piper



November Birthdays

- 02 Rex Kirchhoff
- 05 Tom Dannelley
- 06 Michael Gutierrez
- 09 Bette Learned
- 15 Shirley Handschke
- 18 Lynn Hedlund
- 19 Barb Rilley
- 22 Isabella Waldschmidt
- 27 Alice Lichman

You might be Lutheran if...

1. Your idea of an affirmation is "This is most certainly true."
2. Change means wearing your brown suit instead of your blue suit to church.
3. The most mail you receive all year is from the Stewardship Committee.
4. Doughnuts are in the official church budget.
5. They have to rope off the last pews in church so the front isn't empty.
6. You hear something really funny and smile as loud as you can.
7. The only mealtime prayer you know is "Come Lord Jesus."
8. Sharing the peace during the service takes more time than the sermon.
9. All your relatives graduated from a school named Concordia.
10. The pastor skips the last hymn to make sure church lasts exactly 60 minutes.
11. You only serve Jell-O in the proper liturgical color for the season.
12. During the entire service you hold your hymnal open but never look down.
13. You sing "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus" while sitting down.
14. A midlife crisis means switching from the old hymnbook to the new one.
15. You can actually come up with responses to this.

Love of Christ Lutheran Church
914 W Third Street
Weslaco, TX 78596

We worship in the facilities of:
Faith Lutheran Church
Corner of Border & Third Street
Phone: 956-447-1337-Office
Email: locmailbox@yahoo.com
WWW.LoveofChrist.net

Office Hours: Tues-Fri 9:00am-1:00pm
Office Manager Julie Knutson 651-335 7655

Donations are requested to help buy school supplies for the Children of Runn School. Money or supplies would be much appreciated!

September Council Meeting Thursday the 10th 2 pm in the Fellowship hall.

No Decision on opening the church for Sunday service. Please keep in contact with Love of Christ for updates. We might be looking at October 4th. We'll let you know.



2020 CHURCH COUNCIL

President - Shirley Nelson 956-358-6690 - c
Vice President - Jon Schwartz 712 540-3555 - c
Secretary - Jo Coyle 651-470-8190 - c
Treasurer - Lauren Coyle 651 434-1694 - c
Associate Member at Large - Don Van Deest 715 340-5570 - c
Finance Secretary/Prop. & Fin./Stewardship - C.B. Shields 956 330-7426
Music/Worship & Discipleship/Prayer - Dean Garnett 712 579-2233 - c
Social Ministries & Outreach – Open Position