

First Lutheran Church
92 W. Walnut Street
Washington, PA 15301



Ixoye

ICH-THUS

Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior

Pastoral Perspectives for September 2018

Grace and peace to you from God the Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit amen.

This week, while I have been on “*stay-cation*”, the report from the Attorney General on the clergy abuse in the area of Pittsburgh, and surrounding areas, in 6 dioceses of the Roman Catholic Church was finally released. I had read an article earlier from Canada on George Epoch who was a Roman Catholic Jesuit Priest who died in 1986. This man had sexually assaulted over 100 children during his time as a priest in Canada and the Jesuit Fathers of Upper Canada have silently paid out sums of money to the victims in attempts to stop any public knowledge of his sins.

The Anglican Church of Canada has many incidents of sexual assault of children within their own church as well. One of the former presidents of the Anglican Seminary in Saskatoon admitted that the inner shuffle and moving about of abusive or troublesome priests was called, “*throwing the dead cat over the wall*”. What does this term mean? Well, when a bishop had a priest who had violated the rules of the church or the laws of the land it was common for bishops to meet and trade these violators off to another parish. A drunken priest who stole from the collection plate would be moved to another Anglican diocese and be replaced by a priest who had sexually assaulted children. The bishops clearly had known what was going on and they took these actions to cover up the abuse. The authorities were never contacted and the abusers were constantly shuffled around and around! On my internship in the ELCIC my pastor supervisor drove me past a secluded rural farm; he pointed out that a former Lutheran pastor who had lived there had also sexually assaulted youth and was convicted and served time in prison for his crime.

At this point if you are feeling sick to your stomach and do not want to read anymore of this perspective I do not blame you! It has been so difficult to read and hear about the known abuses of innocent children in Pennsylvania, as well as reminders for me in Canada!

The challenge for my own personal perspective is the wearing of the clergy collar. The collar was a protestant invention from Scotland by Rev. Donald McLeod in Glasgow on December 6th 1894. At that time the Roman Catholics continued to wear the long black cassock so it was easy to tell the two apart.

Later the Roman Catholic Church moved to dropping cassock as daily wear and ended up looking like the rest of the protestant clergy! Only the orthodox have kept the cassock for daily wear.

In my collar; I constantly get called "*Father*" as I go about my daily routines around Washington Pa. If you remember the weekly midweek services during Lent the Rev. Dr. Wendel reminded us in the **Gospel of St. Matthew 23:9** "***and do not call anyone on earth 'father', for you have one Father and He is in heaven.***"

To wear the clergy collar is the sign of the office of ministry in the Lutheran church throughout the world and remains so in all the different and divided Synodical bodies that are Lutheran. I can show up at 11 pm in Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh for an emergency call in the collar and right away the medical staff completely understands why I am there. The collar is uncomfortable to wear, it is hot and doesn't allow full movement of one's neck but the reason for this it to remind the wearer of the clergy collar that they are collared to Christ and also that the wearer is not speaking for themselves but as a called and ordained representative of Christ Jesus!

To touch, abuse, sexually assault a child while a clergy member is collared to Christ means that they will be held accountable for such crimes more severely as we are reminded, "***Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you who will be judged with greater strictness***" James 3:1.

Please read **Titus 1:5-9** as it goes into much greater detail as to how those called to serve God as leaders of the church are to properly behave in their call!

Do I hold all Roman Catholic or Anglican clergy guilty? No! Those who committed these horrific sins and those in power and leadership who covered up these assaults need to be held accountable without any kind of time restrictions by the laws of the land! Sadly, we witness that such abusers can be found in every kind of workplace, sport and

other institutions because humanity is itself sinful! St. Paul in his letter to the **Romans 3:23** ***“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”*** reminds every Christian of that!

In the challenging days ahead, where all churches will be judged as well as their leadership, I will continue to wear my clergy collar. I will have to deal with the people I encounter daily and remind them, and you and I as well, that **we need to put our trust, faith and hope in God and not in any human. Psalm 118:8 *“it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man”.***

The Lutheran church has background checks for abuse, criminal record checks as well as an entire day of psychological testing and another day dedicated to just going over the results with a doctor! The entire four years of seminary keeps the student under constant watch to prevent any future ministers from such situations and would investigate and remove them as soon as possible.

At this time I ask you to join with me in prayer for those who have been broken by such pain and abuse and that they may come to know the healing love, compassion and grace that our Lord has for them.

Your servant in Christ Jesus

Rev. Robert Grewe

Denominations in Washington County Census 1906

36% Presbyterian
27% Roman Catholic
16% Methodist
7% Baptist
6% Disciples of Christ
6% Other
2% Lutheran

A member of our congregation was recently doing some historical genealogy and passed this on to the pastor. It would be interesting to see a modern 2018 census on the denominations that are in Washington County today?

1st Lutheran
Evangelism Report
September 2018

Welcome back, from a short summer break. I hope all are refreshed and rested. I was reading.....:

Transformed Inside Out

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

Romans 12:2.

International newspapers recently ran a story of a young man in Argentina who decided to transform himself into an elf through plastic surgery. His jaw was broken and reassembled; his chin was reshaped; his ears were cut open and stretched out; his eyes were made cat-like; and he is having four ribs removed to be thinner at the waist. "I have my own beauty ideal and want to achieve that no matter what," he said.

Romans 12:1 – 2 has a better approach to total transformation; (1) Receive the mercy of God available through Christ; (2) offer your body a living sacrifice to Him; (3) refuse to let the world push you into its mold; (4) renew your mind daily with Scripture; (5) trust God to transform you from within; and (6) commit to fulfilling His good and acceptable and perfect will day by day.

When we encounter the holiness of God, we are transformed, not by plastic surgery but by spiritual renewal. True transformation isn't from the outside in, but from the inside out.

Becoming What We Worship

We all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory.....by the Spirit of the Lord. 2 Corinthians 3:18.

"When my two daughters, Hannah and Nancy, were about two or three years old, I noticed how they imitated and reflected my wife and me," wrote Professor G.K. Beale. When they played house, they used the same activities and attitudes they saw in their parents. "God has made humans to reflect Him," wrote Beale, "but if they do not commit themselves to him, they will not reflect him but something else in creation.....What people revere, they resemble."

Some people create a god to fit their lifestyle, but this is simply modern-day idolatry. (This mirrors our catechism class assigned summer read: "gods at war", by Kyle Idleman). If money is our god, we'll become materialistic. If it's pleasure, we'll become hedonistic. If it's ego, we'll be narcissistic. Psalm 135:18 says those who make idols will become like them.

But if we worship the God of the Bible, we'll imitate Him and by the power of the Spirit be transformed into His image, from one degree of glory to another.

Turning Point

We tend by a secret law of the soul to move toward our mental image of God.

A.W. Tozer, in *The Knowledge of the Holy*

Holiness consists of three things ---- separation from sin, dedication to God, transformation into Christ's image. James H. Aughey

God Bless

George Salvucci

**1st Lutheran
Thoughts & Tidbits
September 2018**

Please remember this is your newsletter, and if you wish to share some thoughts, prayers, poems, or wish to add to let the congregation know anything, please do not hesitate to submit them.

Sister Joanne Reck has submitted some thoughts and a poem;

“After the winter with it’s cold and snow

We want to pick the flowers and feel the breezes flow

Summer will be here soon

To the beach we will go

Beach fun is my “special” favorite

Fall isn’t far behind

Fall is on it’s way with beautiful leaves that continue to blow

Also, Blessings of God’s Love, who loves us so

Every Good And Every Perfect Gift Is From Above,
And Comes Down From The Father Of Lights,
With Whom There Is No Variation Or Shadow Of Turning.

James 1:17

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Did this summer fly by quickly? All the kids are back in school. Our church is like school, we are starting all our programs up. We have a great Pastor, solid leadership, and a beautiful church. Now all we needs is to have people show up to be apart of our wonderful programs offered within the church.

1. Sunday School starts up September 9th. Our teachers love teaching the Bible and our Lutheran faith.

2. The Adult Sunday School will be starting up the 9th as well. We have a great class. We study the Sola Lectionary each week. It follows the same lessons that we follow in worship service, but with more detail.

3. We will be starting Adult Catechism on Tuesday September 11th at 11am and 7pm. We study the Concordia, the Lutheran Confessions. This class is taught by Pastor Grewe and is one of the most interesting classes that has ever been taught in this church. It will bring new and defined understanding to the Lutheran faith.

4. Dartball starts September 18th. We will have practice on September 11th at 7pm. Come join our team and all the fun. We have 11 players and could use 3-4 more. We also get to meet new people from the fellow churches. We play 3 games at a times. There is a break with snacks between games 2-3. Contact Dennis Schmidt, Larry Sten, or Olivia Lyons with questions or if you wish to play.

5. The Choir will start September 5th at 7pm and the Bell Choir starts September 13th at 7pm. We need singers and bell players to glorify God with our sounds of music. Bring your voices and hands to be a part of the beautiful sounds of our church.

Dennis Schmidt

STEWARDSHIP

Gift Card Orders are due the last Sunday of each month. (September 30th)

SUPPORT OUR CHURCH FUNDRAISER—Anyone wishing to make a donation towards a gift card, please see Kim Chadwick. The gift cards will be purchased through Great Lakes Script. The cards will be used in our church. Please consider supporting this fundraiser.

Thank you!

Kim Chadwick

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

SUNDAY School Kick-Off

Kick-Off will be on September 9, 2018. Please meet downstairs in the Social Room.

Join us as we sing songs, play games, make crafts, learn about the Bible, and much more. We have classes for all ages.

Volunteers for Sunday school!

We are always in need of Volunteers. If you are interested in teaching a class, being a back-up teacher, or donating supplies.

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

I would like to invite all of our Middle School & High School Students to our Sunday morning Sunday School Class.

We meet in the Library and have wonderful conversation. Breakfast treats are provided quite often. We talk about current topics and how they relate to the Bible and also How the Bible is an answer for current event topics. We would love to see you all.

Join us at 9:45 AM. I promise you will not be bored.

Jill Sabol

WNALC—September 2018

The WNALC thanks everyone who contributed items for the disaster victims. We filled 12 baby kits, 28 healthcare kits, 13 quilts and blankets. Bibles were placed in every bag and gently used Bibles were also donated. We thank George and Emogene Salvucci for personally delivering items to the warehouse in Ohio.

We are collecting school supplies for children affected by this summer's disasters. If you are willing to donate any items, please place them in the box in the Narthex. These items will be distributed in the U.S.A.

The September board meeting will be held Tuesday, Sept. 4th at noon in the lounge.

The dinner to honor the men of the church for all their work and time will be held **Monday, Sept. 17th at 6:30 PM** in the social room. All men and boys are invited. We are asking for covered dishes for this occasion. Meat and drinks will be provided.

Circle meeting will be held Thursday, Sept. 27th at noon upstairs. Sonie Rea will be leader and Emogene Salvucci and Karen Gavazzi will be hostesses. All women are welcome. Come and bring a friend.

The Mission District will be held Saturday, October 6th in Ridgeway, PA. All women are invited. Anyone interested in going can contact Emogene Salvucci, Linda Coleman or Sonie Rea.

We are looking forward to starting our fall activities with old and new faces.

God Bless, Sonie

EMBRACING HOPE ETHIOPIA

Our church mission of supporting Hope for Ethiopia has fallen behind severely. All it takes is a dollar a week to keep up our commitment to this important mission.

Please remember this worthy cause that we decided as a church to support in love of neighbor.

Pastor Rob

\$1 a week!

\$1 in the Love Envelope

The Bell Choir will met Thursday, September 13th at 7:00 PM to begin a new season of ringing.

ALL ARE WELCOME — ALL AGES — NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED.

If you are interested but unsure, please join us, give ringing a try, you might find it enjoyable. If you have any questions, please contact Jerry at 412-251-6718 or Kris at 724-747-0849.

TREASURER'S REPORT

CASH FLOW INFORMATION

Summary 2018	Washington Financial			Net	Net to Date
	Income	Expense	WF MM		
January	\$13,349.71	-\$17,569.86	\$23.63	-\$4,196.52	-\$4,196.52
February	\$21,947.70	-\$15,346.48	\$28.25	\$6,629.47	\$2,432.95
March	\$15,959.59	-\$22,883.21	\$5,031.85	-\$1,891.77	\$541.18
April	\$18,708.96	-\$14,293.40	\$31.73	\$4,447.29	\$4,988.47
May	\$13,229.23	-\$16,359.03	\$32.79	-\$3,097.01	\$1,891.46
June	\$0.00			\$0.00	\$1,891.46
July	\$0.00			\$0.00	\$1,891.46
August	\$0.00			\$0.00	\$1,891.46
September	\$0.00			\$0.00	\$1,891.46
October	\$0.00			\$0.00	\$1,891.46
November	\$0.00			\$0.00	\$1,891.46
December	\$0.00			\$0.00	\$1,891.46



CASA for Kids, Inc.

30 East Beau Street, Suite 421 • Washington, PA 15301

Court Appointed Special Advocates
For Children

724-228-0414 • Fax 724-225-9714
www.casawashingtoncounty.org

RECEIVED
AUG 20 2018

Dear Church Community:

RE: HURTING CHILDREN NEED A VOICE

I am writing on behalf of CASA for Kids, Inc. (CASA is an acronym for Court Appointed Special Advocates.) CASA for Kids is a nonprofit organization that trains community volunteers to advocate on behalf of children who have been abused and neglected and are currently under the care of Washington County Children and Youth Services (CYS). A CASA volunteer becomes another set of eyes and ears to ensure a child's safety and permanence.

Each year CASA for Kids, Inc. continues to advance its mission to advocate for the best interest of abused and neglected children in the Washington County juvenile court system. By training community volunteers to serve as fact finders and speak for the children in court, children's needs are met to ensure safety and permanency in their lives.

Since the inception of the CASA program in 2002, CASA had advocated for over 570 children. Currently we have 52 volunteers advocating on behalf of 121 children. Unfortunately, at any given time there are over 350 abused and/or neglected children in the Washington County juvenile court system. **Sadly, we have children on our waitlist that need a CASA advocate.**

The goal of CASA for Kids is to have enough volunteer advocates to serve the children on our waitlist each and make a difference in their lives. With the help of community people, perhaps members of your church, CASA will continue to train and maintain volunteer advocates.

A CASA Volunteer goes through a training program following National CASA standards and is sworn in by Juvenile Judge Michael J. Lucas as a child advocate. At that point they are assigned a child and become that child's voice in court.

Our next Volunteer training session begins on September 12, 2018. I am asking if your church community would put a public service announcement in your church bulletin and newspaper about CASA and the next training session. (Sample Statements are enclosed.)

If you'd like to learn more about CASA for Kids our website is:

www.casawashingtoncounty.org

Thank you for supporting us in our efforts to protect the children of Washington County.

Sincerely,

Vivian C Osowski
Executive Director
CASA for Kids, Inc.

CASA for Kids, Inc. is a local non-profit program advocating for abused and neglected children living in our community, and is a member of The United Way of Washington County.



Suggested Church Bulletin CASA Statements:

- CASA for Kids, a local, non-profit organization for children of Washington County, is looking for community members 21 years or older, from all walks of life, to train to become an advocate for abused and neglected children. The next training class begins in September 2018. For more information about CASA and the upcoming training classes, visit us online at www.casawashingtoncounty.org or call the CASA office at 724-228-0414. You can help a child in need!
- Be a voice for an abuse and neglected child. CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) need more volunteers willing to speak up for a hurting child. The next training of these special advocates begins in September 2018. For more information, visit our website: www.casawashingtoncounty.org or call the CASA office: 724-228-0414. You can make a difference!
- **CASA advocate Training:** Children in Washington County have lives broken into pieces by abuse and neglect. Give these children a voice by being a CASA advocate. For more information, visit our website: www.casawashingtoncounty.org or call 724-228-0414.

HOW WE PICK MUSIC FOR SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

Let's start with the hymns. Pastor Grewe and I start by meeting in the morning and with the help of Sola Publication worksheets, we start looking at the hymn list they provide. First we look at what the readings are and the Pastor's sermon, this is most important. Second, do we know this hymn? Third, if we don't know it, how hard is it and can we do it without too much trouble? I keep a record of all hymns we have done in the past. Pastor and I pick hymns 8-12 weeks in advance most of the time.

Let's talk about choir anthems. They are picked in a little different way. They should also be about what the readings are and I try to do this, but sometimes it doesn't work out that way. I use Sunday and Seasons to help. This book is published by Augsburg Fortress and it is geared to the reading of the day.

Picking choral music is a little harder because I have to estimate how long it will take to teach the choir. How hard is it? Will they like it? These things all go into picking chorale music. I can't pick too many hard anthems at one time as there isn't enough time for them to learn.

This is also the case with the Bell Choir. With the Bell Choir, Kris and I also have to watch what we pick. Do we have the ringers to this? This is why we need more people in both choirs. I don't believe doing easy music is the answer. When you are in sports there is an old saying "no pain, no gain". This is true in music also. If you don't try harder music, you will stay the same and eventually you will decline in what you can do. It is good to learn new things, just as it is good to learn new hymns.

Going on to organ music. There are many different styles of organ music. You have the Master's: Bach, Handel, Beethoven, etc. , but you also have contemporary hymns, new composers like Diane Bish as well as thousands of others. You get the idea. I try to do all styles through the year. Hopefully I play something you like. Maybe not every week but sometime through the year. I am always learning new music to play.

This is how your Worship Service music is done. Pastor, Kathy, Kris, both choirs and I spend many hours every week getting ready for our Worship Service on Sunday morning.

Your Organist and Music Director

In Christ, Jerry



ANTONIN DVORAK

Sept. 8, 1841—May 1, 1904

Widely regarded as the most distinguished of Czech composers, [Antonin Dvorák](#) (1841-1904) produced attractive and vigorous music possessed of clear formal outlines, melodies that are both memorable and spontaneous-sounding, and a colorful, effective instrumental sense. Dvorák is considered one of the major figures of nationalism, both proselytizing for and making actual use of folk influences, which he expertly combined with Classical forms in works of all genres. His symphonies are among his most widely appreciated works; the Symphony No. 9 ("From the New World," 1893) takes a place among the finest and most popular examples of the symphonic literature. Similarly, his Cello Concerto (1894-1895) is one of the cornerstones of the repertory, providing the soloist an opportunity for virtuosic flair and soaring expressivity. Dvorák displayed special skill in writing for chamber ensembles, producing dozens of such works; among these, his 14 string quartets (1862-1895), the "American" Quintet (1893) and the "Dumky" Trio (1890-1891) are outstanding examples of their respective genres, overflowing with attractive folklike melodies set like jewels into the solid fixtures of Brahmsian absolute forms.

Dvorák's "American" and "New World" works arose during the composer's sojourn in the United States in the early 1890s; he was uneasy with American high society and retreated to a small, predominantly Czech town in Iowa for summer vacations during his stay. However, he did make the acquaintance of the pioneering African-American baritone H.T. Burleigh, who may have influenced the seemingly spiritual-like melodies in the "New World" symphony and other works; some claim that the similarity resulted instead from a natural affinity between African-American and Eastern European melodic structures.

By that time, Dvorák was among the most celebrated of European composers, seen by many as the heir to [Brahms](#), who had championed Dvorák during the younger composer's long climb to the top. The son of a butcher and occasional zither player, Dvorák studied the organ in Prague as a young man and worked variously as a café violist and church organist during the 1860s and 1870s while creating a growing body of symphonies, chamber music, and Czech-language opera. For three years in the 1870s he won a government grant (the Viennese critic Hanslick was among the judges) designed to help the careers of struggling young creative artists. [Brahms](#) gained for Dvorák a contract with his own publisher, Simrock, in 1877; the association proved a profitable one despite an initial controversy that flared when Dvorák insisted on including Czech-language work titles on the printed covers, a novelty in those musically German-dominated times. In the 1880s and 1890s Dvorák's reputation became international in scope thanks to a series of major masterpieces that included the Seventh, Eighth, and "New World" symphonies. At the end of his life he turned to opera once again; *Rusalka*, from 1901, incorporates Wagnerian influences into the musical telling of its legend-based story, and remains the most frequently performed of the composer's vocal works. Dvorák, a professor at Prague University from 1891 on, exerted a deep influence on Czech music of the twentieth century; among his students was Josef Suk, who also became his son-in-law.

Sept. Lay Readers

- 2 Donna Bassi
- 9 Kyle Glozier
- 16 Ashley McCartney
- 23 Jill Sabol
- 30 Sonie Rea

Sept. Altar Flowers

- 2 Joe & Judy Sarver
- 9 Dennis Schmidt
- 16 Bob & Anneliese Christian
- 23
- 30

Sept. Acolytes

- 2 A. J. Chadwick and Andrew Serbak
- 9 Brice Berry and Collin Berry
- 16 Nathaniel and Wesley Black
- 23 Lyndsay Berry and Lillah Clark
- 30 Rexanna Quedenfeld and Caroline Quedenfeld

Sept. Ushers

- 2 C. Gosnell; J. Luketich; S. Ringer; D. Schmidt
- 9 T. Bernhart; E. Goga; R. Johnson; J. Ulanich
- 16 N. Bassi; R. Phillips; J. Sakerka; D. Wheeler
- 23 K. Carl; C. Group; C. R. Group; T. Wright
- 30 A. J. Chadwick; M. Mazzotti; G. Salvucci; J. Sarver

Sept. Altar Team

Janet Fischer and Sonie Rea

SEPT. BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | Amy Pascuzzi | 13 | Daniel Ketzell |
| 4 | Judy Sarver
Brad Bernhart | 14 | Paul Sten |
| 5 | Alexis Chadwick | 16 | Carolyn Wright |
| 6 | Shane Ringer
Karen Krcil
Anne Johnston | 17 | Jeff Ulanich |
| 8 | C. Arne Sten
Dell Devita
Melaina Polla | 19 | Audrey Sulerud |
| 12 | Joanne Marker
Tim Bernhart
Allison Burke | 22 | Kandi DeWalt
Herb Snyder
James Warnick
Miranda Rapport |
| | | 24 | Carolyn Dragich
Emogene Salvucci |
| | | 26 | Kurt Snyder |
| | | 29 | Andy Carl |