

The Eternal Light



*Eternal Savior Lutheran Church
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JULY 2021 PASTOR'S PAGE – ESLC

“Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.” 1 Peter 2:16

Americans love freedom. It is part and parcel of our history, our culture, our heritage, and our consciousness as human beings. Freedom is also a God-given privilege and responsibility. The Scripture instructs those who are slaves: “Were you a bond-servant when called [to faith in Jesus]? Do not be concerned about it. (But if you can gain your freedom, avail yourself of the opportunity.)” [1 Cor. 7:21] Virtually all people recognize freedom as highly desirable and yearn to have this blessing that God intends for all of us. We are richly blessed to have freedom as foundational in our Constitution, and a presupposition for our laws.

However, freedom, like everything else, can easily become corrupted. This happens when freedom is divorced from responsibility and from love – so that it is used as an excuse for selfishness, laziness, or for the pursuit of all manner of other sins. Peter warns us about this; he warns against “using your freedom as a cover-up for evil.” Contrary to the logic of our sinful nature, when we use our freedom to engage in sin and evil we actually lose our freedom and become enslaved. The Scripture warns us about this, about people who not only plunge themselves into immorality but lure and encourage others to do the same: “For, speaking loud boasts of folly, they entice by sensual passions of the flesh those who are barely escaping from those who live in error. They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved.” [2 Pet. 2:19,20] Unfortunately, there are many “free” people living in America who are actually “overcome” by various sensual passions and enticements so that they are in fact “slaves of corruption.” And, as Peter warns, they seek to entice and enslave us in the same kind of “freedom.”

We can identify with this – knowing how often we yearn to be free from responsibility and free from love, free to just live according the dictates and desires of our heart. This looks like more “fun” and we think it would be more fulfilling but as God’s Word reminds us, this is really enslaving. So we must think carefully about this whole matter of freedom, and paradoxically we must utilize self-control and self-discipline in order to retain our freedom. For the real freedom, the freedom that God intends for us, that He desires for us and has created us for, is the freedom to be and to live as “servants of God.” Again, our sinful nature thinks of “servant-hood” as being just the opposite of freedom, but the reality is that only in serving God do we recognize and realize genuine freedom. For if we are free to love we are in fact free from everything else – and we are privileged and blessed to live in harmony with God’s creative and redemptive intent for us.

This month we again celebrate our freedoms as Americans. Each Sunday we celebrate the deepest freedom which God has given to us in Christ Jesus - His forgiveness and His renewal of our hearts in love. And each day we are privileged to live in that greatest freedom, to live as servants of God! May God grant us all of us such celebration of freedom!

OFFERING REPORT

Offerings for the months of May/June were:

May 23	\$2,894
May 30	\$3,661
June 6	\$8,734
June 13	\$2,166

This weekly average (\$4,364) compares to our 2021 weekly budget needs of \$4,819.

REMINDERS

Please be responsible!!! For everyone who has access to the church building, it is your responsibility when you leave to make sure that all lights are off, the heat/air-conditioning/fans are turned back or off and all of the **doors are locked and secure!!** Please do double checks before you leave.

Have you checked out the newly revised and **updated ESLC website**? It contains lots of important information including the Eternal Savior church calendar and who will be serving each week. You can also find Pastor Rhode's archived sermons. Please check it out at www.eternalsavior-lutheran.org.

Mid-week Bible Study Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM. To join, email Pastor for the invitation link.

We are starting new **Sunday School curriculum (H2Oh!)**. It is about different uses of water (like the Flood, Red Sea and Jonah and etc). The introductions can be found on our Facebook page.

Please take a look at our **VBS videos** <http://bit.ly/ESLC-VBS2021-Recordings>

Children's bulletins are available. Please ask an usher for a copy.

Prayer request cards are available on a table in the narthex. If you would like to include a prayer request in Sunday's prayers, please email Pastor pastor@eternalsavior-lutheran.org or secretary secretary@eternalsavior-lutheran.org

Parking spaces in front of the church should be reserved for those members and visitors that need to park close to the building due to health concerns or weather. Please be considerate and leave these spaces to those who need them most.

Large print worship service folders and assisted listening devices are available. Please ask an usher if needed.

Dear friends in the Savior: The materials emailed out to you regarding the pastoral transition process are stored on the Google drive at this location: <https://bit.ly/ESLC-Pastoral-Transition> This is also where you will be able to access any updates! Tom and Keith

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Reredos Committee

What is a reredos? It's an ornamental wall or screen behind the altar. When we built this church (already 15 years ago!) we had planned that at some point we would do something more with the wall behind the altar - the reredos. We do have some funding available for this project in the form of memorial funds specifically designated for this purpose.

Reredos Committee - There are 11 people on this committee and we are working with a budget of **\$5,309.05**. We have had one meeting and discussed many options for the wall design. Definition of Reredos is the ornamental wall behind the altar. Suggestions include dry stacked stone and flagstone to resemble the Flatirons. We also discussed shelving for offering plates, flowers, and tabletop candelabras as they might affect

the design. We are gathering sample pictures of other church altars and reredos to get ideas and help with our design. Committee ideas will be shared when we reach final designs. We plan to meet once per month. If you are interested in joining our group, please contact Robin Warnken.

Thank you for donating “Clorox” wipes to our church. We have enough for a while now. But we still need volunteers to help us wipe down surfaces at church after worship services!

Eternal Savior's 50th Anniversary: 2021 marks the 50th anniversary of Eternal Savior. We are forming a committee to plan our celebrations and create a photo/video history. If you would be interested in helping with this effort, please contact Laura Raben at lauraannraben@gmail.com or 720-984-8156.

Gather Your Photos: Do you have photos from past church events? We would love to include them in our 50th anniversary celebration. Please share them with Laura Raben. If you have prints, we can scan and return them.

Quilting. The quilters have started up again after the COVID-19 break. Most of us kept busy at home during Covid time. Orphan Grain Train picked up 111 baby quilts and 26 full quilts in 2020 and picked up another 21 boxes early this June, which included 36 full and 29 baby quilts. Added to the previous years this gives a grand total of 1,356 quilts delivered to Orphan Grain Train. We meet every **Thursday** morning at church from **9:30 till 11:30 am**. We always welcome new people. We tie our quilts so you don't have to know how to “quilt”. Come and play with fabric and make some new friends! See Diane Oehlkers 303-666-9627 for more information.

The Deacon's Fund supports Emergency Family Assistance, ULC, and other charities as well. All of these funds will be used to alleviate the needs of people who are in very vulnerable circumstances. The agencies have expressed great gratitude. We are only able to do this because of the generous and faithful contributions of you, our dear members, to the Deacon's Fund! Please consider contributing via your offering envelopes or in the Deacons' Fund collector in the Narthex! Thanks!!!

King Soopers has changed their system for charitable donations. We are now enrolled in the King Soopers Community Rewards program! To register for the program go to <http://www.kingsoopers.com>. Click on the “create an account” button or the “sign in” on the right hand side of the page. If you are creating an account, you will fill in your information, including a valid email address and a King Soopers loyalty card. Once you have created an account click on the “save” link in the upper left, and then on King Soopers Community Rewards link. Then click on “enroll” and you will be able to search for groups. Use Eternal Savior Lutheran Church or SL909 to link your card to Eternal Savior. **Once enrolled, a percentage of all your purchases will go to our Youth Group every time you use in your loyalty card!** Thanks!!!!

SERVANT SCHEDULE

As things are still uncertain due to COVID-19, please be advised that ESLC Weekly Servant Schedule may not be up to date. Please check with Pastor if you have questions. We are not currently using the sound system. If you are unconfident serving in your role – please just let us know.

SERVING IN JULY

Sunday, July 4

Organist	Marge Paugh
Usher(s)	Tom Stahly, Bob Vieyra
Counter(s)	Mark Bunge
Elder(s)	Jeff Reuer, Wayne Thomas
A/V Booth	TBD
Lawn/Snow	Kevin Cowley
Flowers	OPEN

Sunday, July 11

Organist	Linda Thompson
Usher(s)	Tom Stahly, Bob Vieyra
Counter(s)	Mark Bunge
Elder(s)	Ryan Lambrecht, R. Landowski (r)
A/V Booth	TBD
Lawn/Snow	Ryan Lambrecht
Flowers	OPEN

Sunday, July 18

Organist	Marge Paugh
Usher(s)	Keith Cowley, Paul Reuer
Counter(s)	Mark Bunge
Elder(s)	Kirk Anderson, Jeff Reuer
A/V Booth	TBD
Lawn/Snow	Tom Stahly
Flowers	OPEN

Sunday, July 25

Organist	Linda Thompson
Usher(s)	Roger Landowski, Paul Reuer
Counter(s)	Mark Bunge
Elder(s)	Keith Cowley, Kirk Anderson (r)
A/V Booth	TBD
Lawn/Snow	Bob Vieyra
Flowers	OPEN



WinGS



LWML – Lutheran Women in Mission

Any woman who is a member of an LCMS congregation is welcome to be a member of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. Our group at Eternal Savior Lutheran Church is Women in God's Service – WinGS.

We support the LWML Mission Statement:

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

Monthly Mite Collection – The collection will be held on **July 11**. We are still working to fund the LWML Rocky Mountain District mission grants for 2020-2022. For more information on them visit lwmlrmd.org/missions. The new national LWML mission grants were announced during the convention in Lexington June 24-27 (too late to give an update in time for this newsletter deadline.) The mission grants are posted at lwml.org/mission-grants. **Thank you for supporting the grants with your prayers and mites.**

Upcoming Events

September 10-12, 2021 – **Rest in His Word and in His World** - LWML RMD Retreat at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp, Hillside, CO (See attached statement regarding the location of the retreat.) Retreat Leader Deb Burma is author of *Be Still and Know: A Study of Rest and Refuge*. Sunday morning worship will be led by Rev. Pete Scheele, pastor at Shepherd of the Rockies Lutheran Church in Bailey, CO. The registration form is found at lwmlrmd.org. **Registration ends August 1.**



To all the Congregations of the Rocky Mountain District and to all the women of the Rocky Mountain District LWML,

It has been brought to our attention that the rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp website has a very misleading and reprehensible welcome statement and mission statement. By this welcome and mission statement they have shown us that they have a misguided understanding of the true Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Bible, and that they do not understand or follow the Confessions of the Lutheran church. We as LWML of the Rocky Mountain District do not condone any of these statements in any way and want all the congregations of the Rocky Mountain District and the members of the LWML Rocky Mountain District to know and have the assurance that RTLC is only providing the facilities and meals and WILL NOT be involved in any part of the retreat sessions or the Worship Service. All retreat sessions and the Worship Service will confess and proclaim the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Bible, as proclaimed in the Lutheran Confessions. Since we have heard some concerns about the venue, we want you to know for certain that this Fall Retreat will be run by LWML Rocky Mountain District, holding to and proclaiming the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Bible, and the Lutheran Confessions of the LCMS.

Sincerely and with God's Help and Blessing.

Pastor Pete Scheele

Rocky Mountain District LWML Pastoral Counselor

September 18, 2021 – LWML RMD Northern Zone Fall Rally

June 3-5, 2022 – LWML RMD Convention in Albuquerque, NM

WinGS Officers

Cindy Stahly, President
Vicki Warren, Treasurer

Carol Purfurst, Secretary
Colleen Spahr, Mission Advocate

Serve the Lord with Gladness Psalm 100:2

NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF DEACONS

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rockies Faith Day – August 8th
Local Group Hike - TBD
LFS Backpack Drive – Starting in July

FUND STATUS

2021 To-Date Member Contributions
GENERAL FUND – \$93501.36
DEACON'S FUND – \$ 1840

ROCKIES FAITH DAY

Rockies Faith Day is happening this year on August 8th! The post-game musical guest is MercyMe. The Deacon's will be publishing a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for those interested in attending. We will try to get tickets that cost approximately \$20 per ticket. More information will follow as we get closer to Rockies Faith Day. There is a minimum of 20 tickets required for group discounted rates.

Please sign up on the sign-up sheet at church or email the Deacon's if you are unable to make it to church in person.

ULC MEALS

The Deacons provided a meal to the students at ULC during the spring semester. We will be monitoring the ULC meal signup and inviting the congregation to support future meals for ULC students.

DEACONS' FUND

Contributions: April \$160
Fund Balance \$ 3767.94
Year-to-Date Expenditures: \$1536.13

NEXT MEETING

August 15th

LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICES SUPPORT

We will be starting the LFS backpack and school supply drive collections in July. Expect to see more details in the near future.

EMERGENCY FAMILY ASSISTANCE SUPPORT

The Deacon's Fund continues support monthly donations of approximately \$100 to EFAA in the form of supplies and household goods. EFAA and the recipients of these donations continue to be very grateful.

God has given us two hands – one to receive with and one to give with

July 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 9:00 AM Worship with Communion 10:30 AM Bible Class	5	6 9:00 AM Bulletin Deadline	7 7:00 PM Bible Study	8	9	10
11 9:00 AM Worship with Communion 10:30 AM Bible Class 3:00 PM ULC Mission Society	12	13 9:00 AM Bulletin Deadline	14 7:00 PM Bible Study	15	16	17
18 9:00 AM Worship with Communion 10:30 AM Bible Class	19	20 9:00 AM Bulletin /Newsletter Deadline	21 7:00 PM Bible Study	22	23 9:00 AM Church Workday	24
25 9:00 AM Worship with Communion 10:30 AM Bible Class	26	27 9:00 AM Bulletin Deadline	28 7:00 PM Bible Study	29	30	31

For livestreaming video, please go to church's Facebook page www.facebook.com/EternalSaviorLutheran or ESLC website <https://eternalsavior-lutheran.org/>



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Pray For Us Calendar

LUTHERAN SCHOOLS — JULY 1-15

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) School Ministry serves as a national voice for Lutheran schools, upholding the standards of Christ-centered schools that are academically strong and respectfully operated. Nationwide, there are 1,992 LCMS schools, which include 1,127 early childhood centers, 778 elementary schools and 87 high schools.

Remember God's work in Lutheran schools as you pray:

- 1.** for the children attending Lutheran schools, that their eyes, ears, hearts and minds would be open to God's Word.

- 2.** for Lutheran school teachers, that they would correctly divide and deliver Law and Gospel to students through real-life applications each day.

- 3.** for Lutheran school principals, who lead people to passionately embrace the witness our schools provide to the community. Pray that pastors, principals, directors and teachers would work together in God-pleasing unity.

- 4.** for pastors, who champion the Kingdom work happening in our schools. Pray that pastors would be excited to be an integral part of their school's ministry and the teaching of the children.

- 5.** for the ability of Lutheran schools to serve every child in their care. Ask that the Lord would provide the means to help schools serve children who have disabilities, who have experienced trauma or who come from families with limited resources.

- 6.** for Lutheran schools that are struggling to fill empty seats. Pray that God would revitalize their ministries, energize their staff members and bring more children through their doors.

7. for parents who support our Lutheran schools with their time, talents and treasures. Give thanks for their dedication to the mission of the school.

8. for daily opportunities for our teachers and staff to show God's mercy, love and forgiveness both inside and outside of the classroom. Pray that God would maintain our ability to practice our faith in Lutheran schools.

9. for church members who tell the story of their Lutheran school, that their recommendation might lead more students through the school's doors.

10. for the many non-Christians and exchange students who are coming to our schools. Pray that God would work through the Gospel that they will have faith in Jesus.

11. for first-year teachers, that they may apply their gifts to demonstrate grace and mercy. Pray that God would give them strength and patience.

12. for our early childhood centers that introduce young families to the saving love of Jesus. Pray that they are a faithful witness to the littlest of God's children and their families.

13. for courageous Lutheran schools willing to take calculated risks that will result in significant rewards for students. Give the leaders of these schools wisdom in their decisions.

14. for comfort and healing for school faculty and students during times of injury, illness and loss.

15. for God to raise up wise and gifted leaders who are willing to serve in administrative roles at Lutheran schools.

CAMPUS MINISTRY — JULY 16-31

The challenges to Christians on our nation's college campuses are increasing exponentially. On practically every campus, objections are increasing to the biblical worldview, Christian doctrine, traditional ethics and moral practices. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's (LCMS) campus-ministry arm, LCMS U, aims to encourage, support and help students, faculty and staff in their response to these challenges so they can boldly bear witness to Christ.

Remember God's work through LCMS U as you pray:

16. for the 200-plus LCMS U chapters around the country, that they would receive the support they need to effectively reach out to America's college students.

17. that more congregations and individuals would become involved with their local LCMS U chapters or start new ones.

18. for the growth of LCMS U on urban campuses and at community colleges, two fertile mission fields. Pray that the Lord would open doors to the spread of His Word in these places.

19. for all the dedicated staff and volunteers involved in campus ministry, that God would energize them for their work and use them to plant seeds of faith that will continue to grow.

20. for students starting their first year of college, that they would find a church to attend,

Christian friends and make good decisions while living away from home for the first time.

21. for the parents of college students, especially those who have an empty nest for the first time. Pray that they would find joy and contentment in the midst of life's changes.

22. that Lutheran college students would be bold witnesses to their faith in Jesus Christ, even when faced with pressure from peers and professors.

23. that young people would hunger for the certain truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and not be deceived by the half-truths and lies of Satan.

24. for the 800,000-plus foreign students studying at American colleges and universities. Many come from countries where the Gospel is not freely preached. Pray that their time in the U.S. would provide the opportunity for them to learn about Jesus.



25. for the international students who came to faith while studying abroad. Ask the Lord to provide support so that they can continue to grow in their faith after they return home.

26. for busy college students, who are pulled in many directions with the demands of school, work, friends, family and other activities. Pray that they would make God a priority by setting aside time for worship, Bible study and Christian service.

27. for the development of campus-ministry programs at institutions of higher education around the world.

28. that God would bless and guide the work of all students

involved in mission work and volunteer opportunities both at home and abroad. Pray that this time would be a blessing to them and others.

29. with thanksgiving for a new school year. Pray that students and campus-ministry workers would return refreshed and with renewed dedication.

30. for recent college graduates, that they would find gainful employment as well as a church home where they can learn about God's holy Word in all of its truth and purity.

31. for all students, that God would protect them and provide people to share with them the Word of God.

Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at lcms.org/prayforus or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.

