

DISCIPLEGRAM

September/October 2021

Just a few days ago it was the autumnal equinox—that's a fancy way of saying that Summer is over and Fall has arrived! Temperatures are changing. Leaves are beginning to take on a different color and windows in our homes are open, letting in the fresh cooler air! I don't know about you, but I welcome the change of seasons here in Michigan. Along with the change from summer to fall comes the reality that winter is not far away! And along with that comes the realization that we not only will have colder days, and lots of them, but gone will be the clear sunny days, exchanged for the cloudy days that we have come to associate with Fall and Winter. Somewhere I heard that Michigan is one of the cloudiest states in the continental U.S. Now don't let that get you down—know that there is something that doesn't change and that is our God and His love for us! :)

The time is now for us to bask in the truth that God's Word never changes. Just like the children of God throughout history we, as Jesus' disciples, need to be reminded often of our immutable God and His timeless love/presence with us. Through the valleys and on the mountain tops God is with us and His Word remains constant and is truth. Listen to what our immutable/changeless God says to you: *(continued)*

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Christ Our Savior
Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

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Dear Child of mine,

✠ You may not know me, but I know everything about you	Psalm 139:1
✠ I know when you sit down and when you rise up.	Psalm 139:2
✠ I am familiar with all of your ways.	Psalm 139:3
✠ Even the very hairs of your head are numbered.	Matt. 10:29-31
✠ For you were made in My image.	Genesis 1:27
✠ In Me you live and move and have your being.	Acts 17:28
✠ For you are My offspring.	Acts 17:28
✠ I knew you even before you were conceived.	Jeremiah 1:4-5
✠ I chose you when I planned creation.	Eph. 1:11-12
✠ You were not a mistake.	Psalm 139:15-16
✠ I knew the exact time of your birth and where you would live.	Acts 17:26
✠ You are fearfully and wonderfully made.	Psalm 139:14
✠ I knit you together in your mother's womb.	Psalm 139:13
✠ And brought you forth on the day you were born.	Psalm 71:6
✠ I have been misrepresented by those who don't know Me.	John 8:41-44
✠ I am the complete expression of love.	1 John 4:16
✠ It is my desire to lavish My love on you.	1 John 3:1
✠ Simply because you are My child and I am your Father.	1 John 3:1
✠ I offer you more than your earthly father ever could.	Matthew 7:11
✠ For I am the perfect Father.	Matthew 5:48
✠ Every good gift that you receive comes from My hand	James 1:17
✠ For I am your provider and I meet all your needs.	Matt. 6:31-33
✠ My plan for your future has always been filled with hope.	Jeremiah 29:11
✠ Because I love you with an everlasting love.	Jeremiah 31:3
✠ My thoughts toward you are countless as sand on the seashore.	Psalm 139:17-18
✠ And I rejoice over you with singing.	Zephaniah 3:17
✠ I will never stop doing good to you.	Jeremiah 32:40
✠ For you are My treasured possession.	Exodus 19:5
✠ I want to show you great and marvelous things.	Jeremiah 33:3

I have shown my love for you. I have given you the only cure for the disease of sin—the only way for you to receive the blessings of eternal life with Me in heaven. Trust in My free gift to you. I have given you all that you need so that we can see each other face to face, when that time comes. I love you!

Signed—Your heavenly Father

Romans 5:8, 2 Corinthians 5:21, 1 Peter 3:18, Ephesians 2:8-9

Bask in God's unchanging love for you (read these verses, and the full context of the references, often during your devotional times)—it is the same today as it was yesterday and will be tomorrow. Now is the season to focus on Him and His promises—all the more as the seasons of this temporary life change all around us.

Pastor Dwight 😊



Registration is Open for The LCMS Youth Gathering

The LCMS Youth Gathering will take place July 9-13, 2022, in Houston, TX. The Gathering lasts for five days, but the impact of the event reaches far beyond that. The time preparing for the event helps to build relationships that will last long after the event is over, and the whole experience serves to support and encourage both youth and leaders in their baptismal identity. The Gathering is open to all students aged 14-19 as of July 9, 2022. The estimated cost is around \$1,500 per participant before fundraising. (Scholarship support is available upon request.)

Guaranteed registration closes **October 17th** and a \$100 deposit is due by that date. Register at christoursavior.org/nyg or scan the QR code. Contact the church office for more information.



Youth & Family Ministry

Featured
Ministry



Fellow moms and dads! Are you concerned with the constant bombarding of the Christian faith in today's turbulent times? Do you ache to equip your kids to lovingly but boldly defend their faith and share the love of Christ with their peers? Do your kids need to relax in a safe environment with their Christ-following pals before setting foot out in the world?

And...do you like to eat dinner on Sunday nights?

Imagine an evening once a week where you show up with your whole family, enjoy a delicious dinner, watch your kids grow in their faith and in fellowship with their peers, and you, too, get to enjoy some devotions, fellowship, and conversation with other parents and grandparents.

Hey...did you catch that "dinner" part?

Our youth leadership has been hard at work, reformatting our youth program to meet the ever-changing needs of our kids and their families. They've been in conferences and classes focused on how they can support our kids (and us, their families) in our challenging mission to spread the news of Christ's love in a truly whacked-out world. We celebrated with a fantastic kickoff on September 12th with food, fun, fellowship, and fuel (for the soul!) We had a great turnout of over eighty people, enjoyed an iconic cookout, and had some fun and games...including a huge line at the 9-square frame. It was such a joy to see people coming together

again in the love of Christ!

Please jump in and take this new format and new focus on our youth and their families out for a spin! Join us on Sunday evenings. Dinner is served promptly at 5:00, and then there is a small group for everyone, from the elementary kids all the way up to grandparents. (No youth? No problem! Join us anyway, we are having a great discussion in the adult small group.) Friends of all ages are *always* welcome. Each Sunday night will end with a gathering in the sanctuary at 7:15 with devotions, worship music, and prayer. Be refreshed!

My husband and I have seen so many blessings that this group and youth leadership have given to our children, and I am so thankful that our congregation has offered a chance to help them grow in their faith and teach them to disciple to their peers. Won't you join us?

(Did I mention that they feed us?)

—Becky Brunner

Join us for Youth and Family Night, every Sunday night from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the church. Contact Pastor Eden (pastore@christoursavior.org) if you have any questions, or visit our website (christoursavior.org/youth-all-ages) for more information and all of the ways you can stay in touch with what's happening with our Youth and Family Ministries.



Meet Your 2021-2022 Board of Elders

In our last issue you “met” our Church Council members, and in this Disciplegram we’d like to introduce you our Board of Elders. The elders are elected from the congregation in order to support the spiritual welfare of the congregation, including the pastors and staff, and for the general oversight of worship. They assist the pastors in caring for the needs of the congregation, and they also concern themselves with the spiritual and emotional well-

being of the pastors and staff, including regular prayer for the pastors and staff. They help with administrative duties, such as lining up acolytes, organizing usher teams, and getting together a lector schedule.

Each household in the church is assigned an elder; you can find yours on the list of elder assignments on the bulletin board by the office entrance.



I am **Bob Tyler**. My wife Cheryl and I have been members at C.O.S. for about fourteen years. We are blessed to belong to a church that has so many opportunities to serve our Lord and our fellow man. We will celebrate forty-seven years of marriage this November and have two sons, one daughter and four grandchildren.

I served in the Navy for six years as an Electronic Technician. As a civilian I worked as a serviceman on various electronic equipment including computers, printers, and duplicating equipment. Cheryl and I are both retired now.

Hobbies include camping and traveling our state of Michigan. I also occasionally enjoy Homebrewing and am getting more into woodworking now that I am retired.

One of things I like most about worship here is that we follow the liturgy but if a spontaneous mishap occurs we can take it in stride realizing we aren't perfect! After all, we are all human.

It is a privilege to serve as an Elder. Praying for our pastors and congregation, and helping to see to it that our worship is pleasing to the Lord is very satisfying to me.

where I’m the Director of HR Business Partners & Talent Consulting. My team partners with business unit leaders to develop their talent strategies. I’ve worked in the Human Resources field since graduating from Concordia University in River Forest, Illinois. I also hold an M.B.A. in integrative management from Michigan State.

My interests outside of work revolve around my kids and their activities. When not at their events, I enjoy maintaining our yard and a small vegetable garden. I like music and play piano to relax. I’m an on-again, off-again 5k runner. I’m a sucker for good food and a wide variety of beer. And we recently added a golden retriever puppy to our household, so that keeps us on our toes.

Some of the things I like best about Christ Our Savior are our ongoing embrace of solid Lutheran theology, our growing commitment to serving our community, our pattern of worship that draws on rich hymnody and time-tested liturgies, and our desire to support each other as we grow deeper in faith.

I previously served as an elder. The persistence of the nominating committee encouraged me to consider serving again. My favorite work as an elder is assisting the pastors with communion distribution. I marvel that the God of the universe wraps the expanse of His infinite love into a wafer of bread and sip of wine, and that by this meal faith is strengthened. This feast propels us from the church service into a week of serving those around us, sharing the love that God delivers in this holy meal. It’s extraordinary what God does *for* us, and for others *through* us. What joy it is to serve these sacred things—this holy nourishment—to all who come in faith to the Lord’s table.



I’m **Matt Fremder**. My wife Angie and I have attended Christ Our Savior for over twenty years. We have four children: Emilie, a sophomore at Michigan State University; Ethan, a senior at Lutheran High; Lillian, a freshman at Lutheran High; and Sophie, a seventh grader at Concordia Lutheran School.

I work at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan,



Dear COS Family, my name is **Mike Puterbaugh** and I am beginning the third year of my first term as Elder. I also representing the Altar Guild on the Board, and currently function as Chairman.

I was baptized, raised, and confirmed at Grace Lutheran Church in Redford, MI. My wife Heather (Coursey) grew up in Denver, Colorado and was baptized and confirmed under the Catholic faith. We were married at Church of the Savior - Livonia, MI in 2005 and have two children: Elena(14) and Samuel(11) who were both baptized (and Elena recently confirmed) at COS.

I am a client-based Facilities Chief Engineer at JLL, a global leader in real estate services. I began working at JLL as an electrician at General Motors in Warren, MI in 2017 and transferred to our American Axle & Manufacturing account in 2019. I enjoy tent camping with family, photography, hiking, cooking, and playing chess.

In 2009, Heather and I attended the COS Oktoberfest and soon after, began visiting services, ultimately joining the membership in early 2011. We were attracted to the familiarity of traditional services and the warm welcome we received.

As an elder, I can say that I have received and witnessed more grace, compassion, and love from our members and communities than I could ever hope to give back. I have a deeper understanding of faith and trust in our Lord and Savior—Jesus Christ, because of how I have seen this congregation let His Word work through them! Thank you for letting my family be part of yours!!

Jeff Myers has been an elder for three years. He is married to Laura, and has three stepsons, Dan, Alex, Mike, and one daughter, Anna. He has lived in Redford since 1995 and been a member of COS since 2010. He was baptized at Outer Drive Faith Lutheran Church, Detroit, and confirmed at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Livonia. Since joining COS, Jeff has served in

many different positions, including as an offering counter, greeter, elder, usher and new member sponsor.

He is employed at APAC Paper in Allen Park as part of the local distribution team. He also participates in a small group and for the last nine years he has organized and managed the Men's softball team.

His desire to serve the congregation motivated him to run for the position of elder. He enjoys his role as a support for the pastors and staff as well as the opportunity to be an encouragement to the congregation.



Gary Thomas and his wife of thirty-six years, Laura, have three children: Joe, Julieann, and Jeff. He grew up in the Lutheran Church, and has been a member of Christ Our Savior for sixteen years, from 1979 to 1990, and again from 2016 to the present. He works as an engineer for Ford Motor Company and as a realtor with Real Estate One. He has been active in the life at Christ Our Savior, and before serving on the Board of Elders he was an usher and even took on the responsibilities of Chairman of the Ushers. He also participated in the Return to Worship Task Force. On the Board of Elders, he previously served as the Chairman and currently takes responsibility for Elder schedules.



Larry Dibble: October is my favorite month. Admiring God's creation as colorful leaves adorn landscapes reminds me: "The heavens declare the glory of God. The skies proclaim the works of His hands." Ps.19:1 While raking sugar maple leaves in October, 2002, I anticipated my retirement to The Villages, FL on June 13, 2003. Driving south on I-75, I knew my ministry to children as an Educational Audiologist in Dearborn was complete.

Currently my ministry to six grandchildren ages two through nine occupies my thoughts and prayers. Throwing a football to Jonah or passing a soccer ball to Hazel keeps me active. Daily walks with Suann, my wife of 53 years, allow me to greet neighbors in the Corners of Cherry Hill Villages in Canton where I've lived for five years.

As Elder I'm privileged to pray for and with members. The COS Prayer Planner suggests daily prayer topics and families that I lift up in prayers. This is a valuable tool to prayer life



and is available in the tract rack in the Narthex.



Mark Anders and his wife Esther have been members of COS since 2000. Mark & Esther are lifelong Lutherans who grew up in Illinois; they were married in 1977 and moved to Michigan in 1979 after living in St. Louis, MO for two years. They have raised eight children and are blessed with seventeen grandchildren (with number eighteen due in Feb.); three of their children are also members here – Joel Anders, Alyssa Anders and Lindsay Miller. Mark works for Ford as a Supervisor in the Enterprise Connectivity Research department; he has forty-two years of service with the Company. In his spare time Mark enjoys fishing and reading, but his most enjoyable free time activity is spending time with his family (and grandkids!).

Mark has these comments about the worship life at Christ Our Savior: “Back in 2000 we were searching for a different church, and the first time I visited COS I knew this was the place for our family. The worship service and setting were (and still are!) awesome. There’s a reverence and a real sense of God’s presence in the sanctuary, all enhanced by the uplifting music. COS is a special place, a sanctuary for God’s people and a base for mobilizing outreach to the surrounding communities.” And regarding serving on the Board of Elders: “It’s an honor and privilege to be able to serve on the Board of Elders. This is my second ‘tour of duty’ as an Elder, and I’ve always found this responsibility somewhat daunting but at the same time very encouraging as I work with the Pastors and other Elders.”

Eric Candela, his wife Laurie and son Chandler joined Christ Our Savior in 1998. We were attracted to COS by the quality of the worship and range of ministry opportunities offered. Over the years, we have all grown in our faith by participating in a wide range of these ministries and the worship opportunities that occur throughout the church year.

In the same way that serving and participating in different ministries adds meaning to my faith life, my career has largely been devoted to different forms of public service. My early career was spent working for elected officials at the federal, state and local level of government. More



recently I have worked for two different nonprofit organizations, first The Greening of Detroit and currently, the national nonprofit American Forests. For American Forests, I coordinate large partnerships in several cities throughout the country like Baltimore, Detroit and Phoenix, with an eye toward significantly improving the number and quality of benefits each city derives from trees.

I spend my free time on a variety of interests from reading nonfiction history and biographies, to cycling and kayaking, to watching the Detroit Tigers and Spartan football and basketball. On a couple of occasions, I have mentored a couple of adolescent boys through the Northville Youth Assistance program. Last year, I started developing a flower garden of native perennials that will remain a work-in-progress for a little while and hopefully grow in color and help attract various birds and butterflies to our yard for years to come.

The same things that I have most enjoyed about being a member of COS are probably those that inspired me to serve on the Board of Elders. The quality of worship and range of ministry opportunities COS offers have contributed significantly to my faith walk over the years. I am both humbled and honored to serve as an Elder if there is even a small chance that I can help a fellow member of COS on his or her faith walk in the same way I have been helped by so many others over the years.



I am **Fritz Quitmeyer**, son of Siegfried and Elsie Quitmeyer. Retired from an automotive supplier in 2020, I soon found myself providing management consulting services to small manufacturers. While affiliated with the manufacturing for forty years, more importantly, I’ve been part of His flock much longer, since just eight days old. That seed was well watered through daily devotions, in German, and in attending St. John Lutheran

School in Rochester. In 1982, I married Alison Baker at St. John after our pastor set us up on a blind date. We've been amply blessed with three children, their spouses, and two grandchildren. The blessings continue to flow.

I have served on multiple parish and school boards in Michigan and Wisconsin, including the boards of Education, Trustees, and Elders. Other areas include multiple ad hoc committees and, recently, I became a board member of MOST Ministries and Christian Outreach For Africa.



Hello, I'm **Tom Oberman**, one of your Elders at COS.

I have been a member of COS for over twenty-seven years. Leanne and I were married at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, in Birmingham, back in 1992. We then transferred to COS, and all four of our kids, Patrick(26), Miranda(23), Daniel(20), and Jimmy(17), have been baptized and confirmed here as well.

I'm currently a material handler at Livonia Transmission and have been with Ford Motor Co. for twenty-three years. I enjoy playing the trumpet with COS's own Victory Brass ensemble and am excited to be "getting the band back together, " after our Covid break. I enjoy downhill skiing with the kids, two of which are snowboarders and two still ski. Our family enjoys camping, boating, and spending time together.

As an elder, I love how friendly and supportive everyone is. Helping people is something I feel compelled to do and this was the perfect opportunity for me when I was invited to run for Elder. I enjoy meeting new people and sharing the love of Christ with them.

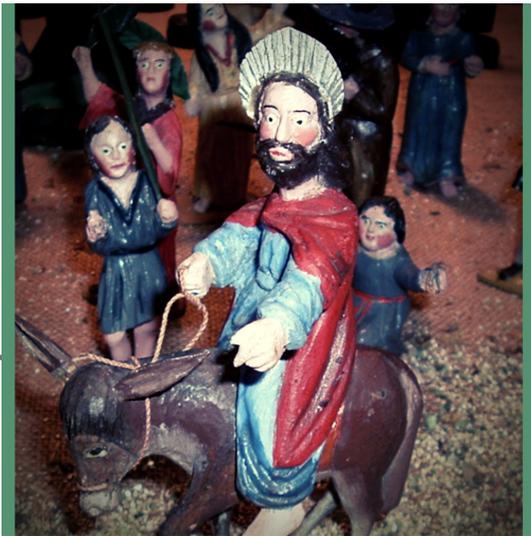
Nathan Troike has been a member for eleven years. He and his wife Jennifer (Thomas) have four children together: Spencer(14), Emma(12), Henry(9), Edwyn(7). Jen is a special education teacher and Nathan is a pharmacist for a

compounding pharmacy called Health Dimensions. In his free time, Nathan enjoys playing with the brass ensemble, apologetics ministries/youth group ministry and most sports, but basketball in particular. He says about our worship, "I like that our worship is consistent with biblical teaching. If you want to know why we do the things we do in worship the answers are easily found. There's a reason for it. The more I've learned about our liturgy the more comfortable I have been with our worship service." He shares why he ran to be on the Board of Elders: "I would like to be a resource for as many people as possible. I enjoy my role as youth leader for the same reason. When I discovered how much of Christianity was based on evidential reasoning it strengthened my faith. I would like to share this with everyone! So far I've enjoyed getting to know the other Elders and having shared purpose in the life of the church. I have just started getting to know families that I am responsible to. If you are reading this and know that I am your elder, I hope that you'll understand that I am figuring out how to best communicate with you. I'm going through the list, but you don't have to wait for me as well. I would love to know more about everyone and their faith in Christ."



Jim Krone and his wife Suzette have been members of our church since 2000. He relocated to Michigan from Illinois, where he was born, grew up and got married. He has two wonderful adult children who are married, three granddaughters and one grandson. His daughter and son-in-law, Alena and Joel Walrath, are also members of COS. He obtained a degree in commercial graphic production and worked in this field before going back for an elementary teaching degree from Concordia (then college) in River Forest, IL. He went on for his Master's in Special Education at Northern Illinois University. He has taught grade school, special education and became an administrator for Lutheran Special Education Ministries. He also has many experiences serving in various ministries. In addition to serving as an elder at COS, he was on the board of Habitat for Humanity. He has gone through the Bethel program, been part of the C12 (Christian Leadership Business Development), and has attended several studies with BSF (Bible Study Fellowship).





Life of Christ Wood Carving Pageant

Part 3

benediction upon the congregation at the end of the Worship Service. The symbol would come to play a very large role in the Life of Christ Wood Carving Pageant presentations.

Over the time the wood carvings have been in my possession there have been new discoveries of details worked into the carvings, discoveries made not by me, but by those who assisted me at wood carving shows.

One of the thrilling discoveries which contributes significantly to the faith message of the display was made by a hostess, Karen Shields. In December 1999, the figures were presented at St. John Lutheran Church, Grand Haven, Michigan.



During a quiet time when no viewers were present, Karen was studying the carvings. Suddenly she became very excited. She literally shouted out, 'Look what I found! Look what I found!'

What caused her excitement was the figure of Jesus on the cross carved with His outstretched, nail-pierced hands forming the ancient "Hand of God" symbol of the Triune God (the first three digits extended, the last two folded downward) as a blessing. Great-grandfather was reminding us, many decades after his death, that Jesus was not a helpless victim of man's evil. Jesus is the Triune God, extending His arms upon mankind with the greatest blessing we humans can receive, the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation even as He is being crucified!

That discovery uncovered another subtle message in the carvings. Already mentioned is the disciple in the "Ascension Scene" with his hand placed on the Scriptures in the Hand of God symbol. Still to be discovered and connected was the hand of Jesus raised in blessing forming the Hand of God symbol in the post-resurrection "Appearance of Christ to Women and Peter" scene.

The identical symbol is also found in

Making Discoveries

Rev. Herbert Graupner, cousin of Ron Meyer, was the custodian of the "Life of Christ" carvings from 1985 until his death in 2020. He took the entire set, carved by his great-grandfather, on the road, showing them and sharing the message of the Gospel through them to many churches throughout the country. For our final article introducing these figures, I wanted to share his own thoughts, from an article he wrote appropriately entitled "Discovery":

"Before my first public display of the carvings I arranged them scene by scene on a long table in our basement family room. Each morning, to start the day, I sat at the table observing, studying and pondering the carvings. Gradually my acquaintance with these new friends grew. Their personalities became familiar. I developed a sympathy with the deaf shepherd who strained to hear, with hand cupped to his ear, what the announcing angel was saying. The aristocratic air of the French Gentleman was hard to escape. I came to love and respect the kindly old man leaning forward resting on his walking stick as he observes the crowd cheering Jesus passing by on Palm Sunday.

Quite early after the carvings came into my possession, I discovered in the figure of the disciple holding the Scriptures on his knee in the Ascension scene that his right hand was placed on the Scriptures with the fingers positioned in the symbol of the Holy Trinity — the thumb, index finger and middle finger extended while the remaining two fingers curl into the hand. This is the symbol Christian pastors are taught to use when they pronounce the invocation at the beginning of worship while they make the sign of the cross. It is also the symbol their hands form as they pronounce the final



Crucified Christ

“Disciples on the Way to Emmaus” scene. One of the two disciples has his hand placed over his heart with his three fingers forming the sign.

Reflecting on this I concluded there is more than coincidence at work here. What could be the implication of this position found in these last three scenes, actually in the last five scenes of the Pageant?

The subtle message in these carvings has this to say: The symbol tells us the crucified Jesus blesses us from the cross with the greatest blessing we humans can receive—forgiveness of sins, eternal life and everlasting salvation. The risen Lord Jesus’ hand, raised in blessing on Mary Magdalene, speaks of Him as source of all blessings as from the hand of a gracious, loving God. The disciple’s hand over his heart tells us that our faith in the blessings of our living Lord is more than a matter of the head. It is a matter of the heart—the heart which believes and trusts, the heart which responds with grateful devotions, the heart which governs all our thinking, speaking and doing devoted to the praise and glory of God, our Lord and Savior. The “Ascension” scene disciple, with his hand on Scripture says that our source of revelation comes from God’s Word, the Bible....

Such has been and still is the exciting challenge of working with and observing

the Life of Christ Wood Carving Pageant, seeking its message in both obvious and very subtle ways.

As people continue to view the carving, hearing the message, studying the detail and seeking the Good News for their lives, it still remains an exciting experience of discovery.”

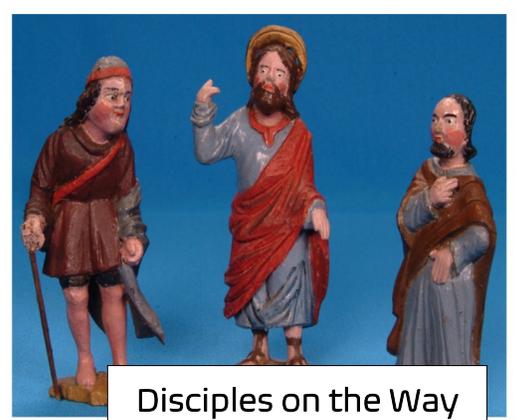
-Rev. Herb Graupner *Connections, Chapter 10, Discovery*

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Soon you will have a chance to see the complete display yourself, and make your own discoveries. The shelves and lighting are being installed in Historic Trinity Lutheran Church as a permanent home for these figures. The Grand Opening is set for November 14, 2021. The ribbon cutting will take place after the 11 a.m. service. Historic Trinity is located at 1345 Gratiot Ave, Detroit, MI 48207. We hope you can attend!

You can participate in this unique project by donating to Historic Trinity with a note specifying “Life of Christ Gallery.”



Appearance of Christ to Women and Peter



Disciples on the Way to Emmaus

Mission Trip Report

Judy Bruder and Linda Hollman

Our Mission Team has returned! From August 28 to September 4 Linda Hollman and Judy Bruder, along with Pastor Jim Hill and other Lutherans from around the USA, traveled to Gualan, Guatemala for a mission trip with MOST Ministries. Now, they give us their thoughts on the experience. Judy shares:

“A few years ago I got to see a presentation by Bill Hahn about a mission trip to South Africa, taking used eyeglasses to poor people that can’t afford them. I felt God nudging me to do that some day, and because I worked in Eye Care, I had a lot of skills that could be utilized.

Now after coming back from an eyeglass mission with MOST Ministries, I’m amazed at what a life changing experience that trip was for me. God has truly shown me what it is to go and serve in His name. To show His love to people in another country that need something they can’t afford.

Guatemala is a country that has a lot of vast differences. One part of the country is mountainous with volcanos and a higher elevation (which makes it cooler), while another



Mission Trip Report, continued



part is lower lands that are a lot hotter. You also see very rich people and very poor people, and not a lot of people in between.

Flying to Guatemala wasn't that bad because they are on Central time, so no jet lag. The whole team flew into Houston and from there we flew into Guatemala. We were met at the airport and taken to Antigua to stay the night before leaving for the town of Gualan, where we would do our eyeglass mission. The trip was by bus and took 4.5 hours, so we had to leave at 4am to make it in time for church Sunday morning. A long ride in the dark but we saw a glorious sunrise. After church we set up several stations for our eyeglass distribution, which started with registration, checking for any infections, a short education on the health of the eyes, along with how to make a saline solution in a small eye drop bottle to help soothe their red eyes from the dust and sun. Then Pastor Luis talked to them about Jesus and salvation and Gospel bracelets or finger puppets were given to them to remember what he spoke to them about. It amazed me how each group sat quietly and listened very respectfully. After that their vision was tested to see what lens prescription would help them see better. This wasn't a perfect prescription like we would get here in the U.S. but something that would help them see better. I remember a grandmother being very happy because she could see her grandchild clearly. The gratefulness, joy and smiles are what I remember and feeling like this little pair of glasses means so much to them.



Our interpreters were so wonderful and we could not have done this mission without them. They became very good friends. It's hard to explain how in just one week's time they became so close to us. It was hard for us to say goodbye.

We served a half day on Sunday, then 3 full days from 8 am to 5:30 or 6pm (depending on how many people were there) and a half day on Thursday before going back to Antigua and the mission house. The total number of people served was 474 guests, and 616 prescription glasses were given



along with 474 sunglasses.

Some things I learned that have stuck with me about the poor. They work in jobs that pay about \$5.50 a day and live with many members of their family. They save for each cinder block to build a room at a time in their home, so it always seems like it's under construction. The Mayan community is still there and of the 24 languages spoken 21 are Mayan. We were able to see Mayan weavers and their beautiful textiles. These women weave on their knees, with a back strap loom for 3-5 hours a day (I can't even imagine how my legs and knees would feel like doing that).

I came home feeling that these beautiful people feel so happy and content in what little they have and we here in the U.S. have so much and are never content. What a wonderful opportunity to serve in God's name, and MOST Ministries made it easy to do. I would highly recommend them for anyone thinking of serving on a mission trip, and pray that God would lead you to serve on one of their teams.

God bless you, Judy Bruder."

—

Linda Hollman also shares her thoughts:

"The was an awesome mission trip to travel to Guatemala with 12 others from the United States. Our team worked together very well and our host congregation was very welcoming. We were blessed to have several people who were able to translate for us and to help us understand the culture. A highlight for me was watching the eyes of those who received glasses for the first time light up when they could see more clearly! We conducted the eyeglass clinic at a Lutheran school where the teachers were all doing online teaching due to covid."

—

Join us on October 17 for a presentation with Linda, Judy, and Pastor Hill between the services. They will tell the story of their trip and answer your questions. It will be a great opportunity to learn about mission work in a different country. We hope you are encouraged to prayerfully consider going on a mission trip yourself!

They Will Mimic You!

Remember the excitement of your children being born? Think back to how you felt seeing that new creation, so helpless, needing you to feed them, change them, bathe them and care for their every need. Think about watching them start to feed themselves, take those first steps and say "momma" or "dada" for the first time. You may have read to them, sang "*Jesus Loves Me*" to get them to sleep and taught them to raise their arms high in the air when you asked them how big they were. We raised our hands or held their hands, lifting them above their heads as we said "So big!" After many days, weeks or months the pay-off came when the child responded on their own to the question and their arms shot up in the air. You excitedly repeat the process, laughing along with the child each time.

Our children and grandchildren want to please us. They follow our example of what we do and what we say. Do you remember the first time you heard something unexpected come out of your child's mouth? What did they just say? Where did that come from? Then you remember some words that came from your mouth that you wish you could take back but it was too late; they heard it and now it is being replayed back to you. You vow to do better.

The children will mimic you!

Thanks be to God that we have Romans 6:1-4 to remind us who we are. "What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life".

We are forgiven and saved people. You have a great story to tell. Little children and even adults are listening to what you say and watching what you do. What example are you showing the world for them to mimic?

Going to church, spending time reading the Bible and setting aside time for family devotions are all great encouragements to our families. Not only will they learn from our behavior but, I pray, they will mimic us as they grow into adults, get married, and have children of their own. May our children and our neighbors see Jesus living in us and come to know Him as their personal Savior from sin.

Something to think about as we continue to be parents throughout all the seasons of life.

In memory of:	Intended for:	Given by:
Mildred Haselhuhn	Family of God Ministry	Daniel & Ruth Dobberfuhl
David Milz	Music Ministry	Eugene & Joann Rogers
David Milz	General fund	Barbara & Herb Sperry
Robert Schroeder	Music Ministry	Ruth Germeroth
Robert Schroeder	Music Ministry	Barbara J. Lappetito
David Milz	General fund	Janet Reiher
Rev. Joseph Fabry	Lutheran Hour Ministry	Richard & Charlotte Eminger
Carol Bird	Music Ministry	Elizabeth Williams
Carol Bird	Music Ministry	Leroy & Alice Geletzke
Carol Bird	Music Ministry	Anonymous
Kenneth Kirchner	General Fund	Charles & Audrey Sauber
Kenneth Kirchner	Missions	Shirley Fabry
George David Milz	General Fund	Kathy Oetjens & Family
Ray Bryer	Family of God Ministry	Jean Gabriel
Emily Wolaszynski	Family of God Ministry	Barb Karowich
Carol Bird	Music Ministry	Sue Bird
Todd Zaske	General Fund	Blair Brisson
Todd Zaske	General Fund	Edith Raezler
Todd Zaske	General Fund	Richard Eminger

Memorials and Gifts

The Lighter Side

The Dentist's Hymn: *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

The Weatherman's Hymn: *There Shall be Showers of Blessings*

The Contractor's Hymn: *The Church's One Foundation*

The Tailor's Hymn: *Holy, Holy, Holy*

The Golfer's Hymn: *There is a Green Hill Far Away*

The Politician's Hymn: *Standing On the Promises*

The Optometrist's Hymn: *Open My Eyes That I May See*

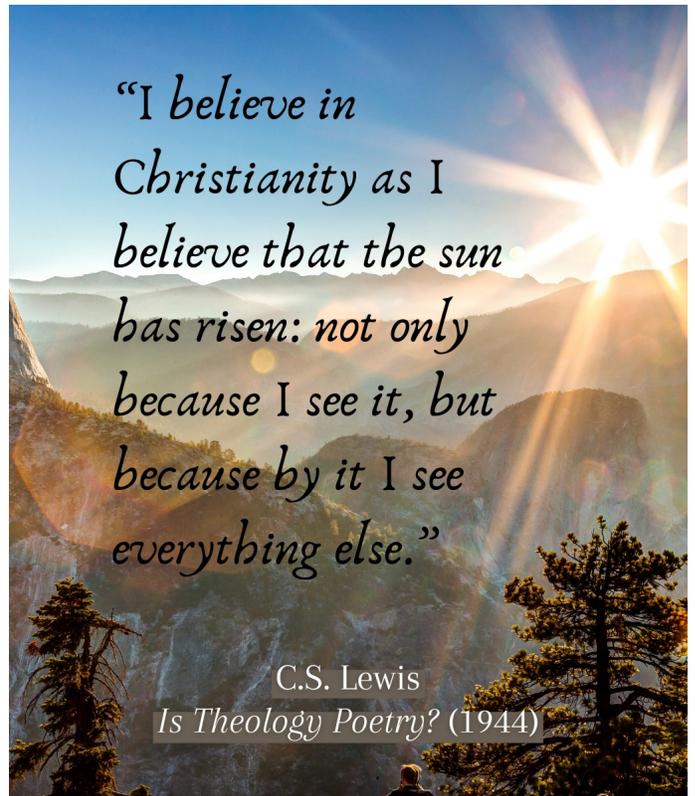
The IRS Agent's Hymn: *I Surrender All*

The Gossip's Hymn: *Pass It On*

The Electrician's Hymn: *Send Out Thy Light*

The Shopper's Hymn: *Sweet By and By*

Food For Thought



COS in Mission 2021



School Supplies

for school totes

We need you to:

- Purchase supplies
- Return by **October 10**

Let Jesus' light shine in communities around the world to children in need of basic school supplies. Our goal is to fill 300 totes with school supplies for Lutheran World Relief to distribute throughout the World. WOW will supply the totes for this endeavor, and we are asking our members to purchase a basic list of supplies to fill these totes. Many of you have already purchased or signed up to purchase supplies, but we still have a lot of totes to fill!

Watch for us at a table in the narthex handing out apples with the list of supplies to fill the tote. All School Kit items need to be turned by **Sunday, October 10th**. Prayerfully consider participating in this Mission Opportunity. Contact Dianne Sherman (734.812.5172), Joanna Eiwen, or the church office (734.522.6830) with questions.

	Let Us Know How You'd Like to Receive the Disciplegram
	If you would like to receive an electronic version of this newsletter, email Alyssa Anders at alyssaa@christoursavior.org .
	Include your preferred email address and the current mailing address where you receive the Disciplegram newsletter.