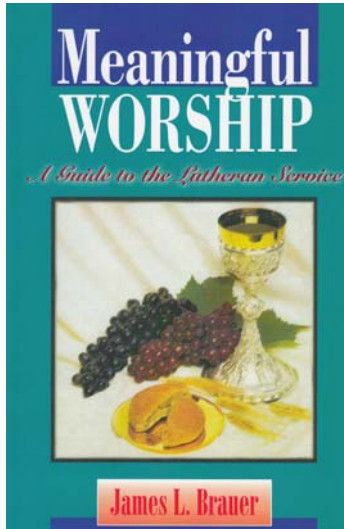




Mid-Week Bible Study



Do you wonder about the meaning of various parts of our worship service? Has it been more than a few years since you learned about worship in your confirmation classes? Then we have the solution.

Using the study guide, "Meaningful Worship," written by James L. Brauer (associate professor of practical

theology and Dean of the Chapel at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis,) the **Mid-Week Bible Study** has begun to study the Liturgy of our worship service.

{Page 11} "Just as going to our parents' often includes conversation and a meal (especially when we're celebrating something), so does worship. There's a big difference, however. When we're visiting family, we come together as equals. When we're with God, we're with the one who has done something only God could do: turn our hearts toward him. This he has done and continues to do as he come to us through Word and Sacrament. The Word and the Supper bring us into touch with God. Together there's a fullness of meeting God when the two elements are joined together in one event. Therefore, these two shape our worship and give it a basic structure. They are the high points, to which we add prayer and praise," *Meaningful Worship*, Concordia Publishing

This study is being led by our own Steve Gustafson, who brings his own unique experience of a life time of Lutheran Worship, a degree in religious studies from a secular University, and real word experience of witnessing to men on board the confines of a Navy ship and in the combat zone of Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Steve brings his own curiosity and his gift of teaching to a distinct presentation of our way-of-worship.

The class is being facilitated by Cary Belzner. Cary brings his own life long Lutheran membership natural curiosity and helpful nature to

The Mid-Week Bible Study meets on Thursday at 6:30PM.

the class.

The schedule for the next few weeks is as follows:

- June 2, The Prayer of the Day and the Scripture readings.
- June 9, The Hymn of the Day, The Sermon and Creed, and the Prayers and Offering.

Future classes will cover the liturgy of the Lord's Supper: The Preface and the Sanctus, The Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer, The Words of Institution, the Peace, the Distribution and the Thanksgiving.

You would be well served by attendance at this class. (Plus they always have snacks.) Mark your calendar and make plans to attend. Ask Cary or Steve for a study guide and come prepared to discuss the various parts of the worship service.

Resurrection Lutheran Church will proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ on Sundays and other special days throughout the Church Year for the benefit of the members and the people of our community. Resurrection Lutheran Church will deliver worship and service opportunities in our facility and out in the community. The members of Resurrection Lutheran Church will distinguish themselves as the most friendly, most caring, and most dedicated Christians in the community. Resurrection Lutheran Church will accomplish this through an active and dynamic worship life, and service and collaboration with and to the community. The members of Resurrection Lutheran Church will be known for radiating Christian Values at all times and in all situations.

THEOLOGY PAGE

LAST THINGS

Dr. Francis Pieper

This article is heavily edited do to the volume of theological jargon, and Latin and Greek terms used by Dr Pieper. It can be found (as a . PDF) with this month's Newsletter on the website. rlc-ms.com.

The State of Souls Between Death and Resurrection

The Bible reveals but little of the state of the souls between death and the resurrection. In speaking of the last things, it directs our gaze primarily to Judgment Day and the events clustering around it. With their coming to faith, the blessedness of the Corinthians was complete except for the bliss awaiting them at "the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" on Judgment Day (1 Cor. 1:7). And with Paul the Philippians and all Christians confess: "We await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body" (Phil. 3:20-21). See also Col. 3:4; 1 Thess. 4: 13 H.; 2 Tim. 4:7-9; Titus 2: 13. Great significance the Day of Judgment and its sequels have also for unbelievers. "They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, 10 when he comes" (2 Thess.1:9-10). But what meanwhile becomes of the soul? What is the state of the souls between death and the resurrection?

Of the souls of the unbelievers Scripture declares that they are kept "in prison;" a place of punishment (1 Pet. 3:19-20). Of the souls of the believers we are told not merely in general that they are in God's hand (Acts 7:59; Luke 23:46), but also in particular that they dwell with Christ and in Paradise, Phil. 1:23; "My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better." Luther said of Luke 23:43: The "being with Christ" or "in Paradise" of the departed believing souls must certainly be an augmentation of the communion with Christ which Christians enjoy here on earth, because Paul adds: "which is far better," better than his communion with Christ here on earth. Moreover, the life "in Paradise," which Christ promised the soul of the believing malefactor, certainly bespeaks a blissful state of the soul after death. These texts surely make it evident that the departed souls of the believers are in a state of blessed enjoyment of God, even though we know nothing further as to the manner of their blessed communion with God. Deductions from the nature of the soul, e. g., that it cannot be inactive, are uncertain and therefore not to be urged in theology.

A soul sleep which excludes a blessed enjoyment of God must be definitely rejected on the basis of Phil. 1:23 and Luke 23:43. A sleep of the soul which includes enjoyment of God (says Luther) cannot be called a false doctrine.

Luther speaks more guardedly of the state of the soul between death and resurrection than do the later

theologians, who transfer some things to the state between death and resurrection which can be said with certainty only of the state after the resurrection. Luther: "It is divine truth that Abraham [after death] lives with God, serves Him, and also rules with Him. But what sort of life that is, whether he be asleep or awake, that is another question. How the soul rests, we are not to know; it is certain, however, that it lives."

The Roman purgatory, to which Rome consigns the souls of the believers for the purpose of suffering temporal punishments still due, is pure invention, for by their faith in Christ the believers, as Scripture teaches, possess not purgatory, but eternal life (John 5:24; 3:18,36). And this holds true not merely of the souls of Paul (Phil. 1:23) and Stephen (Acts 7:59), but also of the soul of the believing malefactor (Luke 23:43).

Recent Protestant theologians likewise teach a sort of purgatory for the departed believing souls. Kahnis, opines: "The idea of purgatory, no doubt, contains some truth, that is, that many Christians still stand in need of a purging. There are many Christians of whom one cannot say that Christ is their Life. Still they feel themselves drawn to Him, and of what they do know of Him they bear witness with a sincerity, self-effacement, and devotion which cannot but shame many Christians who are stronger in words than in deeds. Is there to be no hope for such? There are, finally, the numerous Christians who, as far as men are able to judge, have true faith, but whose faith is still permeated with the dross of the old man, so that one is inclined to judge that, as they now are, they cannot enter Paradise, if Paradise is to remain Paradise. Do not tell me that with the body also much of the old man will fall away... The peculiar traits of a person cannot be wiped out by one magic stroke. How should a Christian who was lacking in love suddenly by death be equipped with a flow of love? Hence we can hardly do otherwise than assume that there is room in yonder world for refining and development."

These words of Kahnis show that he is contending for a purgatory on the basis of the Roman position of salvation by works. He has lost the central truth of Christianity, that through His vicarious satisfaction Christ has purchased for all men full remission of sins and complete salvation and that man possesses (John 8:36; 5:24) this remission of sins and salvation the very moment he comes to faith in Christ as his Savior through the working of the Holy Spirit.

Accordingly, Kahnis has lost sight of the power of Christian faith as far as both justification and sanctification are concerned. He describes Christians as they are not. For Christ is the Life of all Christians, even the weakest. All confess Christ, too, and walk in a new life according to the new man, or in so far as they believe in Christ. Their life is, of course, still greatly impaired by the dross of the old man. But Christians believe that this imperfection is richly and daily forgiven them so long as they continue in faith (1 John2:2). If because of this dross they were to be consigned to a purgatory after this life, none of them would escape this fate, not even the Apostle Paul. For he says, on the one hand, "The life which I now live in the flesh I

(Continued on page 7)

Rast to succeed Wenthe as Fort Wayne seminary president

this story is from the REPORTER <http://classic.lcms.org/pages/reporter>.

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, announced May 21 that Dr. Lawrence R. Rast Jr. will serve as its 17th president.

Rast, 48, currently serves the seminary as academic dean and professor of American Christianity and American Lutheranism. He will succeed Dr. Dean O. Wenthe, 66, who has served as president since 1996.

Wenthe announced his retirement in January, and said he plans to step down from the post when his successor is installed. An installation date for Rast has not yet been set.

"This place is a gift of God. But the people who are part of this community are truly the gifts of God," Rast said after his election was announced. "As we begin to step forward into a new time, we look forward to all kinds of changes. ... But one thing never changes, and that is the grace of God in Jesus Christ for each and every one of us, Who has called us by name in our Baptisms, set us apart to be His own and given us the promise of everlasting life.

"That is why we are here. That is why we take this message of Christ out into the world that needs so much to hear it."

Rast joined the seminary's Department of Historical Theology in 1996 after serving as pastor of Ascension Lutheran Church, Madison, Tenn. (1992-96). He received his B.A. from Concordia College (now Concordia University Chicago), River Forest, Ill., in 1986, and his M.Div. and S.T.M. degrees in 1990 and 1995, respectively, from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. He earned his Ph.D. in 2003 from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.

Rast also serves the seminary as archivist and associate editor--Book Reviews for the Concordia Theological Quarterly. He is a member of the Board of Editorial Advisors for the journal Lutheran Quarterly and of the editorial committee of the Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly. Since 2006 he has served as a faculty representative on the Synod's Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR), and has been CTCR chairman since 2010.

In his May 21 remarks about Rast's election, Wenthe said, "This is indeed a joyful moment. Dr. Rast has served beside me for years and done a superlative

job as academic dean. He brings a depth of theological knowledge and wisdom and creativity.

"And one of the great blessings is [that] he'll take our seminary from this technologically challenged



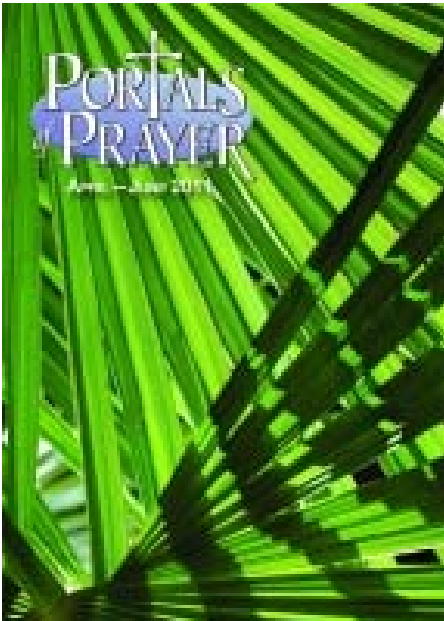
Concordia Theological Seminary

Concordia Theological Seminary President-Elect Dr. Lawrence R. Rast Jr. prepares to speak to the seminary community May 21 in Fort Wayne, Ind., shortly after his election was announced.

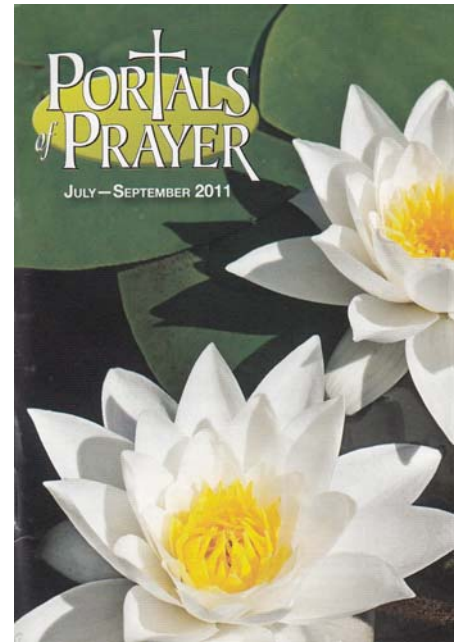
leader into a whole new wonderful network. I think, under his leadership, the seminary will go viral -- and millions will hear about us, and hear the Good News with faithfulness and charity through his leadership.

"I couldn't be happier," Wenthe continued. "I'm like the pastor who knows that his successor is going to hold up -- and even improve on -- the vision. God bless you, Dr. Rast."

President-Elect Dr. Larry Rast, jr., is a personal friend of Pastor Schultz. When Professor Pastor Rast was working on his Doctorate, Pastor Schultz called him, "Almost Dr. Rast." Last month we published the account of Dr. Rast's work to preserve the history of the 1900 work of Pastor Nils Bakke's work among African Americans in Alabama.



PORTALS of PRAYER



Since 1937, *Portals of Prayer* has been a favorite of readers who appreciate to-the-point devotions. Pocket-sized for easy carrying, *Portals of Prayer* is a timeless favorite source of strength and comfort. Each devotion features a Bible reading, meditation, and prayer in an easy-to-read format. *Portals of Prayer* is great for personal devotions, and can be used to open meetings or launch Bible studies.

You could write devotionals, the rules for submission are found at: <http://www.cph.org/t-topic-portals-writing.aspx>

We order a certain quantity of Portals of Prayer devotionals because of their pricing structure. We also have left over copies when the quarter is over. As of today we have: one large print and eighteen pocket sized Portals of Prayer that have devotions through the month of June.

First, you would be well served to take a copy for yourself and use it on a daily basis. The Portals of Prayer devotionals are written by various people from various walks of life.

The June devotions were written by:

Rev. William G. Sabol

William Sabol is the pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Jasper, Minnesota a rural community in the southwest corner of the state. He is a Michigan native who graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy before entering the ministry. Pastor Sabol is married to Natalie, who is the love of his life. Natalie helped Pastor Sabol with the editing of his devotions. They have two beautiful children, Ryan and Kristof.

The July devotions were written by:

Mrs. Diane Grebing

Diane Grebing is a writer and teacher. She resides in Bunker Hill, Illinois, where her husband, Terry is Pastor of Zion Lutheran Church. Previously, they were at parishes in Odell, Nebraska, and Eldon, Missouri. Diane and Terry have one son, Eric, a graduate of MIT with a dual degree in electrical engineering and teaching. Diane enjoys travel, reading, music, writing for the church, teaching high school students, and working with adults with special needs.

The other thing you could do is take an extra copy and conveniently leave it in any number of those places where people gather, and may need to hear the Word of God in a simple devotional presentation.

Your doctor's waiting room, the lobby at the beauty salon, your best friend's living room are only a few of the examples of places that people gather and casually pick up and read materials. For all intent and purpose, the extras are free to Resurrection, but that doesn't mean that we feel good when the extras go into the recycling bin.

"Portals of Prayer has a rich history of presenting thoughtful content steeped in biblical truths. Each daily devotion features several key components, namely, a Scripture reading and Psalm, a key Bible verse taken from the Scripture reading, a devotion, and a brief sentence prayer. This simple yet effective structure connects with readers from varying walks of life and spiritual background who appreciate to-the-point devotions."

"Thank you for a wonderful devotional. I've used it for years, as did my parents and grandparents. I have cousins that I discuss various subjects in the devotional with on a regular basis and how it impacts our lives."—**Gwen Dumas**

"Each day the devotions dealt with a topic that I could relate to and shed light on an issue, whether in my present or past."—**Irma Martin**

June 2011

National Rose Month

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>May 29</i> 1917 <i>John F. Kennedy</i> <i>birthday.</i>	<i>May 30</i> MEMORIAL DAY <i>Veterans' Memorial</i> 3:30PM	<i>May 31</i> 1990 <i>Seinfeld</i> starting <i>Jerry Seinfeld,</i> <i>debuts on NBC</i>	<i>1</i> 1926 <i>or</i> 1969 <small>(he is always 43)</small> <i>Oscar The Grouch</i> <i>Birthday</i>	<i>2</i> Ascension Day <i>Bible Study</i> 6:30PM	<i>3</i> 1965 <i>First U.S. walk in</i> <i>space. Ed White</i>	<i>4</i> 1896 <i>Henry Ford</i> <i>drove his first</i> <i>automobile.</i>
<i>5</i> 1783 <i>First Hot Air</i> <i>Balloon Flight</i>	<i>6</i> 1944 <i>D-Day</i>	<i>7</i> 1967 <i>Israel takes control of:</i> <i>Wailing Wall in East</i> <i>Jerusalem, Jericho</i> <i>and Bethlehem.</i>	<i>8</i> <i>Church Council</i> <i>Meeting 7:00PM</i>	<i>9</i> <i>Bible Study</i> 6:30PM	<i>10</i> 1940 <i>First commercial</i> <i>Ball point pen</i> <i>patented.</i>	<i>11</i> <i>Jacque Cousteau</i> <i>Birthday</i>
<i>12</i> <i>Pentecost</i>	<i>13</i> 1846 <i>Sewing Machine</i> <i>patented.</i>	<i>14</i> <i>FLAG DAY</i>	<i>15</i> 1752 <i>Ben Franklin's kite</i> <i>flying electricity</i> <i>experiment.</i>	<i>16</i> <i>Bible Study</i> 6:30PM	<i>17</i> 1775 <i>Battle of</i> <i>Bunker Hill.</i>	<i>18</i> <i>International</i> <i>Picnic Day</i>
<i>19</i> <i>Fathers' Day</i> <i>Trinity</i> <i>Sunday</i>	<i>20</i> 1834 <i>England issues</i> <i>first postage</i> <i>stamp.</i>	<i>21</i> Summer <i>Solstice, (longest</i> <i>day of the year.)</i>	<i>22</i> 1894 <i>Harry Houdini</i> <i>married Bessie</i> <i>Rahner.</i>	<i>23</i> <i>Bible Study</i> 6:30PM	<i>24</i> 1963 <i>First home VCR</i> <i>demonstrated.</i>	<i>25</i> WARNING <i>There are exactly</i> <i>six months until</i> CHRISTMAS!
<i>26</i> 1498 <i>Toothbrush</i> <i>invented.</i>	<i>27</i> 1859 <i>Happy Birthday</i> <i>Song written.</i>	<i>28</i> <i>Paul Buyan Day</i>	<i>29</i> 1838 <i>Superman's</i> <i>birthday is</i> <i>tomorrow.</i>	<i>30</i> <i>Bible Study</i> 6:30PM	<i>July 1</i> 1992 <i>FOX broadcasting</i> <i>begins Wednesday</i> <i>programming.</i>	<i>July 2</i> 1955 <i>"Lawrence Welk</i> <i>Show" premiered</i> <i>on ABC.</i>

In 1900, fathers prayed their children would learn English.
Today, fathers pray their children will speak English.

In 1900, a father's horsepower meant his horses.
Today, it's the size of his minivan.

In 1900, if a father put a roof over his family's head, he was a success.
Today, it takes a roof, deck, pool, and 4-car garage. And that's just the vacation home.

In 1900, a father waited for the doctor to tell him when the baby arrived.
Today, a father must wear a smock, know how to breathe, and make sure film is in the video camera.

In 1900, fathers passed on clothing to their sons.
Today, kids wouldn't touch Dad's clothes if they were sliding naked down an icicle.

In 1900, fathers could count on children to join the family business.
Today, fathers pray their kids will soon come home from college long enough to teach them how to work the computer and set the VCR.

In 1900, fathers pined for old country Romania, Italy, or Russia.
Today, fathers pine for old country Hank Williams.

In 1900, a father smoked a pipe.
If he tries that today, he gets sent outside after a lecture on lip cancer.

In 1900, fathers shook their children gently and whispered, "Wake up, it's time for school."
Today, kids shake their fathers violently at 4 a.m., shouting: "Wake up, it's time for hockey practice."

In 1900, a father came home from work to find his wife and children at the supper table.
Today, a father comes home to a note: "Jimmy's at baseball, Cindy's at gymnastics, I'm at adult-Ed, Pizza in fridge."

In 1900, fathers and sons would have heart-to-heart conversations while fishing in a stream.
Today, fathers pluck the headphones off their sons' ears and shout, "WHEN YOU HAVE A MINUTE.."

In 1900, a father gave a pencil box for Christmas, and the kid was all smiles.
Today, a father spends \$800 at Toys 'R' Us, and the kid screams: "I wanted Sega!"

In 1900, if a father had breakfast in bed, it was eggs and bacon and ham and potatoes.
Today, it's Special K, soy milk, dry toast and a lecture on cholesterol.

In 1900, a Father's Day gift would be a hand tool.
Today, he'll get a digital organizer.

In 1900, fathers said, "A man's home is his castle."
Today, they say, "Welcome to the money pit."

In 1900, "a good day at the market" meant Father brought home feed for the horses.
Today, "a good day at the market" means Dad got in early on an IPO.

In 1900, a happy meal was when Father shared funny stories around the table.
Today, a happy meal is what Dad buys at McDonald's.

In 1900, a father was involved if he spanked the kid now and then.
Today, a father's involved only if he coaches Little League and organizes Boy Scouts and car pools.

In 1900, when fathers entered the room, children often rose to attention.
Today, kids glance up and grunt, "Dad, you're invading my space."

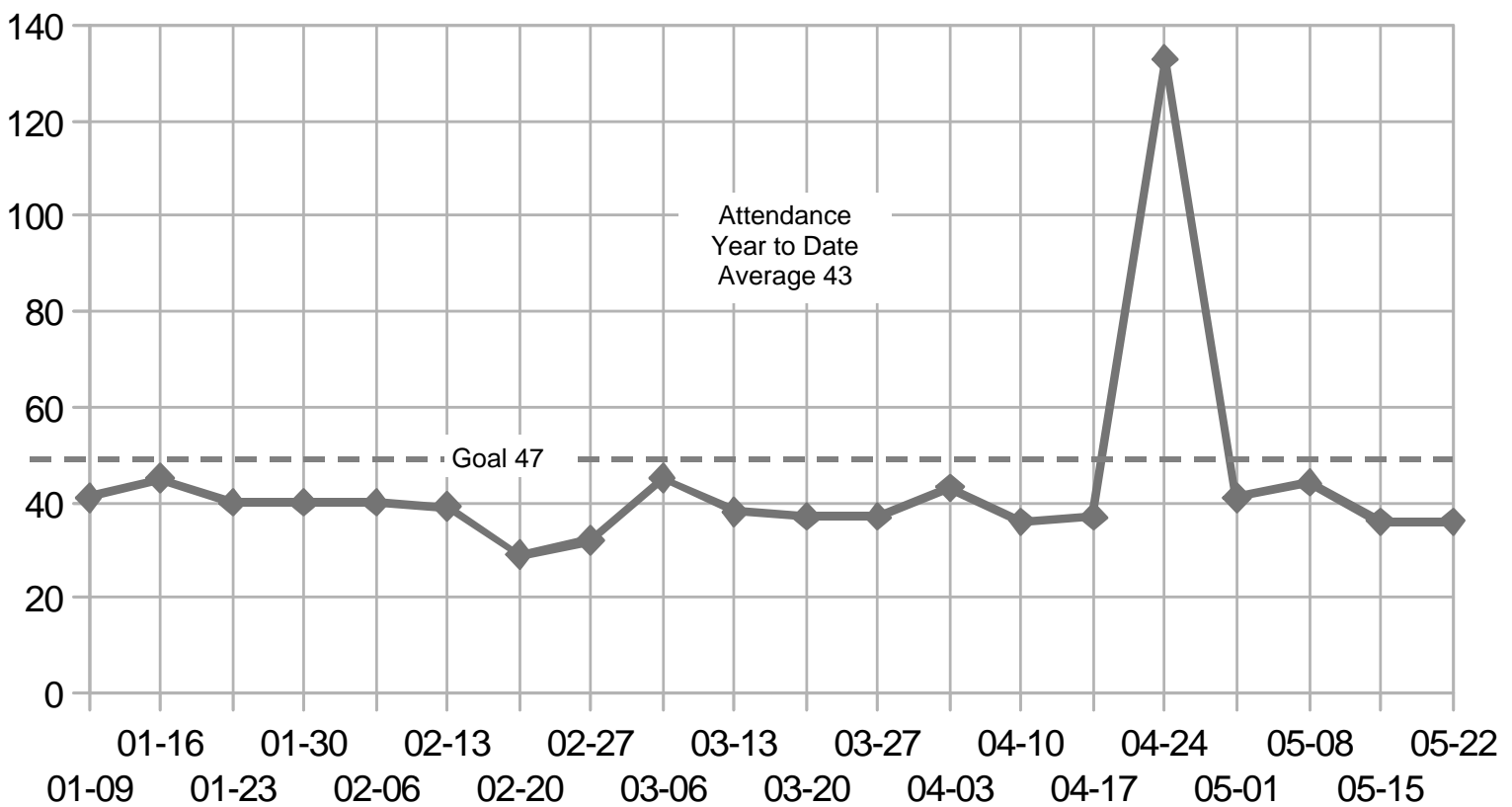
In 1900, fathers threatened their daughters suitors with shotguns if the girl came home late.
Today, fathers break the ice by saying, "So...how long have you had that earring?"

In 1900, fathers pined for the old school, which meant a one-room, red-brick building.
Today, fathers pine for the old school, which means Dr J and Mickey Mantle.

In 1900, fathers were never truly appreciated.

In 2011, fathers are never truly appreciated.





(Continued from page 2) **Death**

live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me" (Gal. 2:20); on the other hand, he deplores the dross of the old man still inherent in him, saying: "Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?" (Rom. 7:24.)

With regard to Kahnis' remark that the faults of a person cannot be wiped out as "by a magic stroke," note: (1) In the very moment in which the Holy Spirit succeeds in creating faith in him, man is regenerated and delivered from the dominion of sin (Rom. 6:2,14). Faith is not the product of human deliberation, self-decision, or concurrence, etc., but as much a creative work of God as the calling forth of light out of darkness at Creation (2 Cor. 4:6). (2) Luther and the old Lutheran teachers certainly are right when they teach that in death the soul of the believer is purified of all the remaining dross of Original depravity, as the phrase "in Paradise" (Luke 23:43) proves. Paradise is the dwelling place of sinless man. Inasmuch as after its separation from the body the believing soul dwells in Paradise, it must have become sinless. Also, "being with Christ" (Phil.1:23) is such an enhancement of the communion with Christ that the soul is completely free of sin. Luther therefore calls death the last purgatory of the soul.

Men have also dreamt of an intermediate body for departed souls. Kahnis reports: "Theologians (Schleiermacher) and philosophers (Fichte, Weisse, Goeschel) have come to the conviction that without a material foundation the survival of the soul is inconceivable" This idea appeals to Kahnis himself. Likewise to Macpherson, who reasons: "It may fairly be assumed that during the period that elapses between the death of an individual and the coming of Christ, which brings with it the general resurrection, he wears a body

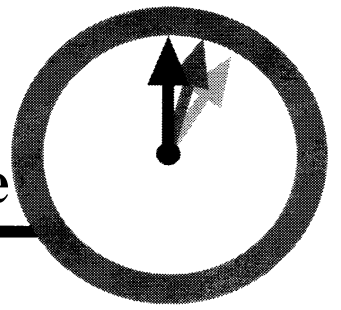
suitable to his condition during that period, which in the resurrection to judgment is changed for that spiritual body which he will wear throughout eternity". He adds: "Schleiermacher, in particular, has dwelt upon the impossibility of our conceiving or imagining a human spirit unassociated with a body does not warrant the adoption of this notion. Schleiermacher would not have had to worry about a bodiless soul had he borne in mind that there is a personal and omnipotent Spirit, fully able to keep a soul in existence without its body.

Before leaving the subject of the souls of the departed, we record the following facts: 1. Departed souls do not return to this world. This is a standing rule and divine arrangement (Luke 16:27-31). Moses and Elias, who appeared on the Mount of Transfiguration and spoke with Christ (Matt. 17:3), are to be counted with the risen. {He who assumes that in 1 Samuel 28 God Himself made an exception to His rule and actually had the soul of Samuel appear must at the same time teach that this exception does not abolish the clear rule enunciated by Christ that the spirits of the dead do not return to this world and that therefore Spiritism is devil worship and a fraud, for which God punished the Canaanites with extermination (Deut.18:11-12)}.

2. There is no Scripture warrant for attributing to the souls of the departed a direct knowledge of particular things and happenings on earth (Is. 63: 16: "though Abraham does not know us, and Israel does not acknowledge us;"). To invoke the departed saints for their intercession and help, as Rome enjoins, is not only idolatry, but also folly."

3. Scripture offers no hope for the conversion of departed souls. Such wishful thinking rests entirely on human speculation. In 1 Pet. 3:18-19 a preaching of judgment, and not a preaching of the Gospel, is meant.

Memorial Day-- Power to Defeat Our Foe



Psalm 122:7-8

GOD'S WORD

May there be peace within your walls and security within your citadels. For the sake of my brothers and friends, I will say, "Peace be within you." (Psalm 122:7-8)

FOR SHARING

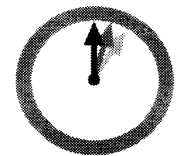
1. What provides peace and security to our nation? What role does the armed forces play in providing us with peace and security?

2. How do our greatest enemies—sin, death, and Satan—threaten to rob our peace and security?

3. Jesus conquered these enemies by His death on the cross and proclaimed victory over them when He rose from the dead. Through faith we receive the blessings of forgiveness and the power to resist the temptations of our enemies. Through His Word the Holy Spirit works to strengthen our faith so that we may experience everlasting peace and security. How can we continue to receive the assurance of God's peace? How can our sharing God's peace help to insure peace within our walls and security within our citadels?

PRAYER

Speak Psalm 122:7-8 as a closing prayer.



Study 33

© 1994 CPH Scripture references: NIV®

"In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood." Hebrews 12:4

In my Junior year of High School Mr. Zeagan taught us to play, "Capture The Flag." I suspect he made up some of the rules to keep us from doing actual harm to one another. Basically, there are two teams, each has a flag, and the goal of the game is to capture the other teams flag and carry it back over your line.

There is a bit of strategy, but mainly there is a lot of brute force. We also played Rugby, that year, and I was less bruised playing Rugby than Capture The Flag.

There was a rumor that Mr. Zeagan had been a drill Sergeant in the military, which may have been possible, but I never believed. He was much too young to have spent much if any time in the military. I suspected that Mr. Zeagan started the drill Sergeant rumor.

One of Mr. Zeagan's retorts, if we complained that we had been injured playing, Capture The Flag, was: "Is it bleeding?" If the answer was yes, we were sent to the nurse, if no, we were sent back to the field.

On Monday, the 30th of May, we will gather again at the Santa Clara Veterans' Memorial. I find it much more fun to gather for Veterans' Day, than for Memorial Day. Veterans' Day is a day to honor the living, the ones who are still in the game. Memorial Day is about those who died. And Memorial Day is followed seven days later, by D-day, when 150,000 troops were sent to overwhelm the Nazis. 9,000 were killed or wounded, in that one day.

Sin is a terrible thing. Which is funny because for the most part we really really really enjoy our sin. We make not the slightest effort to resist, rather we gather up our energy to make the excuse as to why we fell into sin (Adam said, "That woman, YOU gave me...") but every so often we try to do the right thing, only to have it come back on us.

One of our members has been having car issues, but she is really trying to be in church on Sunday morning. On a Sunday not long ago, her car broke down, on the highway leaving her stranded. Then she had to struggle to get back home.

Sometimes I wonder if others of our members, who skip church on a seeming schedule, have to



work as hard.

Jesus always did the right thing, the God pleasing thing, because He is God. Jesus fulfilled every command and utterance of Law from God, did everything from a deliberate sense of perfection, and yet His blood was demanded as the sacrifice for the sins of the world. The perfect man took sin into His flesh, that He would be able to die to sin and then arise as the satisfaction for the sin of us all.

In their struggle to establish a beach head at Normandy on D-day, 150,000 men were dropped into a nightmare. It was a chess match and they were the expendable pawns, chess pieces strategically given away to gain the greater advantage of checkmating the king.

100,000 came out of that nightmare without so much as a scratch, (and as Mr. Zeagan in capture the flag, "no blood, back in the game!") were sent on through Europe to capture Berlin.

The author of Hebrews reminds us that in our struggle against sin, we have not yet shed our blood, there is no point in complaining that things aren't going well, because until we die for our Faith, what we have is all just a little inconvenience. Would that we lived in Iran, where attending a Christian church can lead to being killed by the Revolutionary Guard.

In our day to day walk with Jesus there will be the occasional scratch, the occasional bump and bruise, while the greater glory is yet to be manifested in our heart and soul, in our flesh. We get the bumps and the bruises, because of sin, but as a believer sin is not allowed to take our life from us, for in the end we will fall asleep with Jesus and awaken to the glorious mansion of Eternal Life.

On Sunday we will gather again to praise God for the glorious Resurrection of His Son, the first fruits, the guarantee of our resurrection, the one who set us free from sin death and Satan, and on Monday we will gather to praise God for the memory of those who gave their blood to make us free to worship Him in purity and truth.

Pastor Schultz

RESURRECTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Missouri Synod

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W K SCHULTZ, PASTOR

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SUNDAY MORNING

8:45AM Sunday School

9:00AM Adult Bible Study

10:00AM Worship Service

**MEMORIAL DAY
MAY 30
VETERANS'
MEMORIAL
3:30PM**