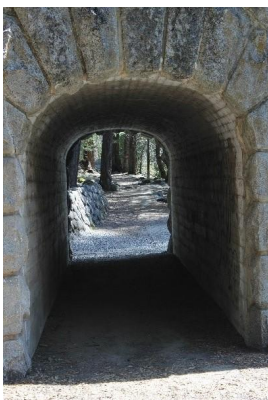




UNILU NEWS & EVENTS

December 30, 2020



FROM PASTOR JON

“I am not sure that 2021 is going to start out much better than 2020 is ending, but there is hope for the future and God is always with us. That makes all the difference.”

Jean Mehlman, “Thought for the Week” 12/30/20

In these two short sentences Jean captured many of my thoughts. Psychologically, I can’t wait to have 2020 in the rear view mirror, and I’ll probably wince for the rest of my life when someone mentions “having 20/20 hindsight.” It has been a difficult year worldwide; a devastating year for some individuals and communities.

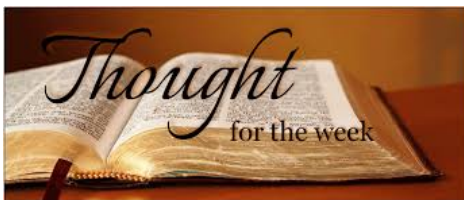
It’s also been a year of tremendous change, learning and growth. Not in any

way I planned for and one that I would not voluntarily repeat. Yet we adapted. We changed.

I am grateful for many things this year. Grateful to Jean for stepping out of her comfort zone and inspiring and encouraging so many people by sharing her thoughts. Grateful for our choirs, for Judi and Rebecca for adding so much to our online worship. Grateful to our leadership for prioritizing the use of the Education Building for a semblance of LCM activities this fall. Grateful for the grace Pastor Josh manifested in working alongside the LCM students. Grateful to our Community Ministry team for keeping us plugged in with local ministries and for Carol (& Keith) Miller for sewing a record number of surgical caps for children. Grateful for our whole congregation's ongoing support for all of our online activities: worship, devotions, bible studies, stewardship drive, and meetings, all done to try and keep one another safe. Grateful for.....

Yes, we will continue to have many challenges in 2021, and therefore many opportunities for us to continue to flesh out what it looks like to love God and to love our neighbor. Together we can be about doing God's work in the world God so loves.

God's peace, justice and hope,
Pastor Jon



THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

I must admit that I will be glad to see 2020 end tomorrow night!! That is not to say that the year has been all bad. I have learned a whole lot about modern technology while going from a flip phone to a smartphone. Both Ed and I have enjoyed good health. I discovered that you can have a great time playing bridge with a computer app and a 4-way phone conversation. We have learned new ways to stay in touch and treasure the times we can "see" family and friends. I have also learned that the following scripture is true.

Isaiah 26:3-4:

"You (God) will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast,

because they trust in you.

Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal."

Trusting in God and Jesus was the focus of Sarah Young's devotion for yesterday, December 29, in *Jesus Calling*. Psalm 62:8 gives a good blueprint for keeping God foremost in your mind.

Psalm 62:8:

"Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge."

The morning newspaper and the nightly news have certainly not led to peace and a feeling of well-being this year. Covid-19 is an ever present danger. Our country is so divided. On the other hand, *Jammies with Jesus*, my morning devotion time and sharing thoughts with you, the *Tuesdays Together* and Wednesday morning bible studies, zoom get-togethers, and online worship services provide constant reminders that God is Our Refuge. We are not alone! God is our Rock eternal.

I am not sure that 2021 is going to start out much better than 2020 is ending, but there is hope for the future and God is always with us. That makes all the difference.

May God be your refuge this New Year!

Jean Mehlman

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY



LCM DECEMBER GRADUATES

It's always difficult to say goodbye to students as they graduate and move on to bright futures. It's even more difficult to do that when we aren't able to send them off with a blessing in the sanctuary! A few weeks ago we recognized Tom Birdsong and Mary Katherine King, who graduated in December. Both have been a blessing to this community during their time in LCM, and both have gifts to offer the world as they move on to what's next. Thanks, Tom and MK!

If you'd like to send a card to congratulate these two, please contact Pastor

PARISH NEWS & UPDATES



LOOKING FOR YOUR HELP WITH THE ANNUAL REPORT

There will be a different report format this year due to the Covid-19 restrictions. The UniLu Council would like to open up to the entire congregation the opportunity to be included in this year's review!

The deadline to email things to Abi is Monday, January 18th.
unilusecretary@gmail.com

We are looking for pictures, pictures, pictures! Members can include a favorite bible passage as well.

We are also asking **all committee chairs to prepare a brief report on the status of their committees and to email those reports to Abi no later than Monday, January 18th.**

- Marion Fisher, UniLu Council President



IT TAKES A VILLAGE!

The Facebook Live presentations of our worship services have continued to improve as we have learned the tricks of the trade. It is appropriate to recognize all the people and the work involved in presenting the service on-line.

It all starts with the pastors and Abi Donhauser, who specify the order of service. Meanwhile, Judi Key selects the music to fill out the service. When the worship outline is set, Abi then prepares the final service bulletin and

sends it out via email to the congregation on Fridays.

Pastor Josh uses this bulletin to prepare the Powerpoint slides that are required, typing the wording on the slides and selecting any pictures that will enhance the worship experience. About 40 slides are prepared for each service. Pastor Josh then emails the slides to Ned Johnson who prepares a listing of the slides to manage them during the service. He also prepares a script for the online presentation. The script specifies the sound settings, which camera is to be used, and scene selections for each slide and portion of the service.

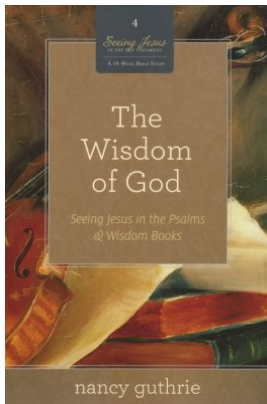
Concurrently, Judi Key records the music on her cell phone and transmits the musical accompaniments to the choral selections to the choir members, who separately record the vocal portions. Each of these recordings are then forwarded to Pastor Josh who combines them into a single rendition. There is a similar process for the bell choir videos - Rebecca Quesada leads the group and compiles their contributions in one video.

During the service a total of four computers and three people are involved. One computer is used to establish and maintain the internet connection with Facebook Live. A second is used to overlay the slides on the video picture. A third is required to play the musical selections. And the fourth computer is used to monitor the service on the Facebook Live website. Three people operate the computers and the audio/video system: Ned controls the sound and camera settings, Myrna Johnson controls the slide inputs, and either Pastor Jon or Pastor Josh control the musical selection input.

After the service is completed, Pastor Jon uploads a copy of the service to the University Lutheran YouTube website. Ned uploads a copy of the complete service to the uniluclemson.org website and edits out both the children's message and the sermon for uploading to both the uniluclemson.org sermon page and to the University Lutheran Facebook page. These edited portions are intended for people who may want to forward a specific message to someone else, or who want the specific portions without having to watch the entire service.

As you can see, a lot of people are involved in the presentations and lots of special equipment is required. We are continually trying to improve the presentations and to expand our capabilities to provide new options such as the videos of the Bell Choir performing. There are lots of moving parts and sometimes things do go wrong, but please remember that it is blessed to forgive.

So, it DOES take a village to prepare and present the University Lutheran online services. Thanks to all involved!



TUESDAYS TOGETHER BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM

***The Wisdom of God: Seeing Jesus in the Psalms & Wisdom Books* DVD and study book by Nancy Guthrie**
10 sessions: Jan. 12 – March 16, 2021, 10:00 to 11:15 am

***THE WISDOM OF GOD* books are available with home study or you can just watch the lecture video when you join Tuesday's class. The lectures are printed in the book if you miss a class. We will deliver books.**

Sign up or questions please contact Karen Dreher; jkdreher@att.net

We can help with using Zoom, if you need it.

For more information about the material see *The Wisdom of God* by Nancy Guthrie on the internet.

CHURCH PEW FOR SALE

Original from the old church. The pew is 7ft. 8in. long.

Excellent condition; \$200.

Jimmie Pletta; 864-886-0318

SUNDAY

Worship at 9 am on Facebook Live

<https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/>

Adult Bible Study, 10 am

Linda Holt lindaGTholt@bellsouth.net

Youth Sunday School, 10 am

Mollie Barrow mbarrowjr@aol.com

First Sunday of Each Month 10:30 - 11 am Drive Up Communion

In church upper parking lot

MONDAY - SATURDAY

Morning Devotion "*Jammies with Jesus*" at 7:30 am on Facebook Live

<https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/>

TUESDAY

"Tuesdays Together" Bible Study, 10 - 11:15 am

Karen Dreher jkdreher@att.net

"The Wisdom of God"

January 12 - March 16

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study, 10 am

Marty High marty@martyhigh.com

"The Book of Isaiah"

FRIDAY

Zoom Drop in with Renee & Pastor Jon, 5 - 6 pm

Drop in for a few minutes or hang out for the full hour.

Contact Pastor Jon pastorjon12@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

UNILU CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

UNILU PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAYER CONCERNS for University Lutheran Members, Family and Friends:
George, Martha & Nancy Harris; Alton Fanning; Brenda Monn's mom, Betty Lighty; Kenneth Cothran, Sr.; Gregg Dupree; Marty Copenhaver & family; Jimmie Pletta & family; Gail Paul; Pat Wagner; Rosalyn Flanigan; George Harris; Tony Quesada; Randy Gilchrist; Larry Bock; Joyce Lillehamer.

UNILU CELEBRATIONS

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS this Coming Week: Susan Lusk; Bill Aikens; David Beckley; David Huizenga; Renee Heiliger.

CELEBRATING WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES this Coming Week: Jack & Libby Queener; Chris & Amy Cox.

PARISH INFORMATION

MISS A SERVICE?

The recorded church sermons, audio and video,
are posted weekly to the website: www.uniluclemson.org and to the
University Lutheran Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/uniluclemson/>

REMOTE CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday–Thursday 7 am–12 pm; 1 pm–2:30 pm

Fridays 8 am - 12 Noon

Abi can be reached during the above hours at: 864-722-5504 or

unilusectetary@gmail.com

Click [HERE](#) for UniLu Calendar

Click [HERE](#) for Prayer Fellowship List

LINKS

[SC LUTHERAN MAGAZINE](#)

[UNILU WEBSITE](#) • [LECTIONARY/READINGS](#)

[LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY](#) • [SC SYNOD](#)

[ELCA GOOD GIFTS](#)

UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

University Lutheran is a family of faith, called by the Holy Spirit to be one ministry serving both our community and university.

The Spirit calls us to make known, by word and deed, the story of God's love in Jesus. Our worship together empowers us to grow as disciples as we receive, celebrate, and share God's gifts with all of God's creation and created ones.