

# The King's Letter

August, 2021

From the Pastor: We Are A Confessing Church

*"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful."* Hebrews 10:23 (ESV)

August 1<sup>st</sup> marked the anniversary of my call to serve the congregation of Christ the King Lutheran Church as her called pastor. For 11 years, we have worked together for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Together, we continue confessing our only hope is in Jesus Christ. We are confessing Christians that absolutely believe that we are saved by grace alone through faith alone through Jesus Christ alone (Eph 2:8). When we say we are confessing, it is so much more than confessing guilt. We unquestionably come before God, corporately or privately, to confess our sins, and we certainly press into the sweet good news of absolution proclaimed from the mouth of our pastor. However, as we see in Holy Scripture, confessing is more about existing together in "one word" or, better said, "together we say the same thing."

Together, we claim the truth of God's Word. Together, we agree as per our congregation's constitution that the Holy Scriptures are the "divinely inspired, revealed, and inerrant Word of God." Together we submit to the Word of God "as the only infallible authority in all matters of faith and life." We are only saying the same thing that God says about His Word and through His Word. We dare not take this confession for granted as few Christians (even some who call themselves Lutherans) can claim they are saying the same thing within their own bodies.

Together we say, "we accept without reservation and declare adherence to the Symbolic Books of the Lutheran Faith as the presentation and explanation of the pure doctrine of the Word of God and a summary of our faith as a Lutheran Church. This congregation accepts, confesses and recognizes the following as normative for its theology." What this means is that we find the Lutheran confessions are in lock step with Holy Scripture, they are an accurate exhibition or presentation of the pure teaching of God's Word and an excellent summary of the faith held by your called pastor and every member of this congregation. To pledge acceptance "without reservation" is to say that we, together, believe that the Lutheran Confessions are in complete agreement with Holy Scripture and it is not to say that this is one of many options that are correct. For 11 years we have said that we promise to teach, preach and live together in harmony with the teachings of the Lutheran confessions because they are in complete agreement with the Scriptures

While we are an independent Lutheran congregation, it doesn't mean we all can believe whatever one wants to believe. It isn't a free-for-all and no Christian church practices this sort of an idea. As per our founding constitution that was unanimously approved ten years ago by this congregation and affirmed and adopted with the addition of each new member since then, we all agree and say together that we are Christians that confess the same thing- that the doctrines of the Lutheran confessions are trustworthy and true because they are in full accord with the inspired, inerrant and infallible Word of God. We say the same thing in our life together and our mutual mission of the proclamation of repentance and the forgiveness of sins through the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world (Luke 24:4). We are a confessing Lutheran Church.

May God - Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit - keep us so. Amen!

### Let's Help the Kids!

School will soon be in session, and Ben O'Brien, principal at Hartley Elementary School, says there is a real need for donated **school supplies** as lots of kids just plain can't afford them. Especially needed are: glue sticks, pencils, erasers, CRAYOLA colored pencils, crayons, markers, and boxes of tissue (200 sheets).

If you'd rather donate money, "consult the board" in the Gathering Area and our church committee will purchase needed items.

The deadline for bringing your donations to the church and placing them in the marked boxes is Sept. 5. Thank you in advance for your generosity. The kids in Waseca who receive these gifts will be touched to know that **SOME-BODY** cares.



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With the Waseca County Fair and VBS being done, September is looming very close on the horizon ... and THAT means .... **CHOIR WILL BE RESUMING!!!!** WHOO-HOO. So for all of you who enjoy singing, please think about joining us. I don't know yet if we'll start Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> or if it'll be Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> ... but we will continue to have it from 6:30 – 7:30 pm on Wednesdays. Stay tuned for further announcements in the Newsletter and Bulletin for the start-up date!!!!

**Sunday School will start soon. There will be volunteer sign-up and student registration forms in the narthex. Please be sure to check this out!!!!**



There will be a meeting the second half of August (no date set yet) for those interested in participating in the Contemporary Service (2<sup>nd</sup> service). Please don't be shy about coming to this meeting.

**There will be a Student / Parent Confirmation Orientation meeting, Wed, Sept 8<sup>th</sup>. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and parents will be 6:30 – 7:30 and 9<sup>th</sup> grade will be at 7:30. We'd like both parents to attend with their student if possible.**