



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Sometimes when I come up empty in trying to figure out what to write I look at Dr. Kieschnick's weekly blog. This is what he shared some time ago:

The Folded Napkin

A few months ago I was invited to be the keynote speaker for tonight's Williamson County Texas A&M Muster in Liberty Hill, Texas. Muster is held April 21 every year to honor all Texas A&M University alumni who have passed away since April 21 of the previous year.

Without giving away my entire speech, in today's Perspectives I'll share a story I'll tell tonight that some of you may have heard. It's about the folded napkin. Be forewarned that this story is not universally accepted as being an accurate explanation of the text. Yet I think its message is worth sharing.

Five days ago we celebrated an event that has both secular and spiritual significance of Easter Sunday, also called the Festival of the Resurrection of our Lord. Its focus is on one of the most incredible miracles described in the Bible, the coming back to life of the man called Jesus.

The Gospel of John (20:7) tells us that when the followers of Jesus discovered his body was missing from the tomb in which it had been placed three days earlier, the cloth, sometimes called a napkin, placed over the face of Jesus was not just thrown aside like the grave clothes were. The Bible says the cloth was neatly folded and placed at the head of that stony coffin.

That's a seemingly minor but very important detail. To understand the significance of the folded napkin, we need to know a little bit about Hebrew tradition of that day.

A folded napkin had to do with the relationship between a master and his servant. When the servant set the dinner table for the master, he made sure it was exactly the way the master wanted it.

The table was set perfectly. Then the servant would wait, just out of sight, until the master had finished eating. The servant would not dare touch that table until he knew the master was finished.

If the master had finished eating, he would rise from the table, wipe his fingers and mouth with his napkin, wad up the napkin, and toss it onto the table.

The servant would then know it was time to clear the table. The wadded napkin meant, "I'm finished."

But if the master got up from the table, folded his napkin, and laid it beside his plate, the servant would do nothing. The folded napkin meant, "I'm coming back!"

Again, as stated above, this interpretation of the meaning of the folded cloth at the head of Jesus is not universally accepted. I simply happen to like it.

It does coincide with a promise Jesus made to his disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am." John 14:1-3

That's a great promise I try to remember, especially every time I'm folding a napkin.

Dr. Gerald B. (Jerry) Kieschnick

In Germany it was similar in that when you were done with the meal, you put your silverware, crossed on the plate to signify you are finished

⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself.

He is Risen,

Pastor Marshall

OTHER NEWS



Birthdays for the month of May

- 3 Oliver Floyd
- 7 Jon Marshall
- 8 Isla Burrus
- 8 JP Dunger
- 10 Amanda Mizell
- 13 Cade Mizell
- 18 Cadyn Mizell
- 20 Donna Marshall
- 21 Bill Witt
- 22 Kathy Sodd
- 30 Jason Lochmann

If we forgot you, we apologize, it means we most likely don't have it. Please see that the office receives it.



Baptismal Anniversaries for the month of May

- Ben Bradley
- Stephanie Thompson
- Mark Raddle
- Andrew Raddle

Perfect Attendance!

Sunday School Attendance for the month of March

Students:

- Kaleigh Frye
- Ainsley Reiderer
- Baleigh Crook
- Mannix Reiderer
- Kingston Reiderer
- Cormic Reiderer

Adults:

- Don Richter
- Harold & Tricia Jacobs
- Bill & Karen Witt
- Phyllis Dunger
- Donna Marshall
- Susan Marshall
- Dan Reiderer
- Erin Foster
- Lynne Russell
- Phillip & Amanda Dunger
- Cathy Webb



Sunday Average Attendance for March— 55

Sunday Average Attendance online for March – 10

March Offerings – \$20,119.01



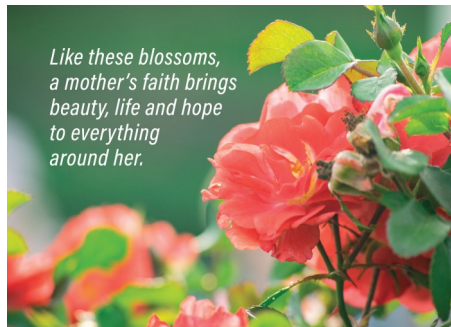
Dear Trinity Church Family

We are so grateful for each of you and the love you've shown our family during this special time.

Thank you for your kindness, your prayers and for celebrating this new life with us. Your thoughtfulness—whether through your presence, encouragement, or generous gifts—means more to us than words can express.

We truly appreciate each and everyone of you and are thankful to be a part of such a wonderful church family.

With love and gratitude,
Cacee, John & Henry Raddle & soon to be here Virginia.



Happy Mother's Day

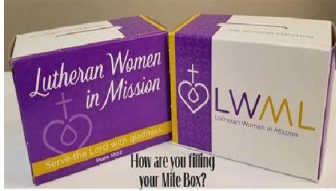
Peace I leave you, My peace I give you;
not as the world gives, do I give to you.
Do not let your hearts be troubled, nor fearful.

John 14:27, NASB



LWML NEWS

MARY GUILD



The April meeting of Mary Guild opened with a devotion by Cherrie Bradley. "Though one

may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not broken." It is better to go through life with others than to be alone.

The officers gave their reports. The main business of the meeting was additional information about the fall rally to be held at Trinity in October.

The Mary Guild mission project for the month was a monetary gift for the work of the Lutheran Bible Translators. We collected two hundred and fifty dollars. We also gave fifty dollars to Evergreen Lutheran Church and School in Michigan. This church and school are witnesses for Christ in an area of extreme poverty.

The birthday of Karen Witt was celebrated with the birthday song. Cherrie Bradley had the topic. Karen was hostess. Thirteen members attended the meeting.

In May, Phyllis Dunger will present the devotion and topic. Pat Baughman is hostess. The mission project is a monetary donation to support the Lutheran Indian Ministries.

Closed with the League Pledge.

Submitted by Kaye Meins

Esther Guild Mailbox Member Group

The April issue of our Mailbox Member Group was a celebration of Easter. There were spring ornaments to make and to share with family and friends. Here is a link if you would like to make some [LWML website](#).

Members were also encouraged to remember those who are homebound and unable to be at church for Easter. We were encouraged to take them Easter baskets full of goodies to bring them joy and let them know they are remembered.

We are encouraged to remember the two requests that have been submitted to the LWML MSD for consideration at the District Convention in June. Esther Guild has sponsored a request for a grant to

Neighbor to Neighbor to help them feed the hungry in Jefferson County. Mary Guild sponsored a request for a grant to pay for the air conditioner replacement in the youth loft. For members of the local LWML please encourage your delegates to vote for these very worthy grants.

If you would like to receive the Esther Guild monthly Mailbox Member email, please let Erin Foster know. She can add you to the list.

Submitted by
Erin Foster



May the Lord Bless Your Lenten Season!

Warm greetings in the name of the Lord. It is our prayer that you have a blessed Lenten season. The season of Lent prepares us as we follow the steps of our Lord as He prepared himself for the sacrifice on the cross of Calvary that would bring salvation to all peoples.

A group of seminarians from Concordia Theological seminary in Fort Wayne is visiting the Dominican Republic. During their time here they are getting to know the Latin American seminarians, meeting the missionaries, and participating in the worship services. We thank them for their visit!

This next Tuesday all of the missionaries will get together for our monthly fellowship meal and worship service. All of the missionary families help provide the food in a potluck style dinner. The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Naumann, who serves as our regional chaplain, will officiate the worship service. This event provides a great time of fellowship for the missionaries.

We are happy to announce that two of our seminarians: Jesus Barcelo, and Oscar Saveedra will be graduating this coming May. Jesus will be returning to Venezuela and Oscar will be returning to Mexico. Remember Jesus and Oscar in your prayers as they prepare to serve the Lord as ordained pastors in their respective countries.

The congregations in the Dominican Republic are holding Wednesday Vespers services during the Lenten season. This last Wednesday Dan preached the sermon and seminarian Francisco Orastegui helped with the liturgy. We give thanks to seminarian Francisco for his assistance.

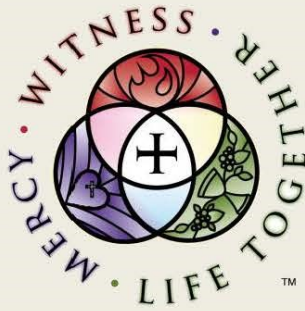


A photo from the local annual orchid festival.



INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT HONDURAS

- + Over 700 species of birds live in Honduras
- + Honduras has one of the largest coral reefs in the world.
- + Honduras has a population of 11 million people.
- + The capital city of Honduras is Tegucigalpa. It has a population of 1 million.
- + The favorite sport in this country is soccer but baseball has popularity also.
- + Spanish is the principal language but some native indigenous languages are spoken also.
- + Coffee is the principal agricultural product.
- + The five stars on the Honduran flag represent the five countries of central America with the star in the middle representing Honduras



We Pray For

- + Our daughter's upcoming surgical procedure.
- + Peace among the nations.
- + The people of Cuba.
- + Seminarian Areil who recently arrived from Cuba.
- + Those Christians who suffer persecution

We Give Thanks For

- + Our newly arrived seminarians and their families.
- + Our mission donors who make Gods mission possible.
- + The Lord's kingdom workers who proclaim the Gospel unto the ends of the earth.



Personal Notes

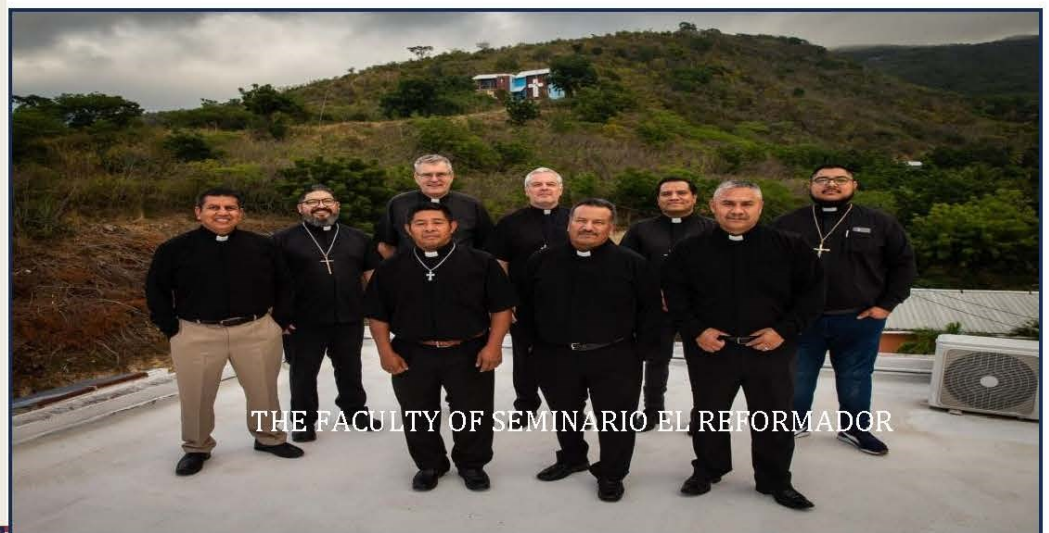
Our daughter Ana had her appointment with her oncologist for the purpose of diagnosing the lump in her breast. He ordered some more medical tests to determine if the lump is malignant. She will undergo these tests on the 26th of March. Please remember Ana in your prayers during this time.

We thank God for the mission in Latin America. Your support provides Biblical training for national pastors, deacons, and deaconesses. Prayerfully consider how the Lord may be leading you to support this vital mission. The Lord provides the funding for his mission efforts through the donations of His local churches and its individual members. Through your financial donations national pastors and deaconesses will be formed and mentored so that they may spread the Gospel throughout Latin America. Together we partner with God to take the Gospel to the far ends of the earth. We thank you for supporting the mission in Latin America. God's richest blessings! Have a blessed Lenten season!



I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 1:3)

Soli Deo Gloria
Daniel and Kathy



To support our work financially, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 790089
St. Louis, MO 63179-0089 Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks "Support of Daniel Conrad."

Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on our online giving page at www.lcms.org/conrad or call 888-930-4438 to speak with one of our Donor Care representatives.

You may also donate through Mission Central:
<https://missioncentral.us/conrad/>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						2 1:00 Craft Day Fellowship
3 9:30 SS/Adult Bible Study 10:45 Worship w/Communion 12:00 Elder's Meeting 5 th Sunday of Easter	4	5 Cinco De Mayo	6	7 No Bible Study Business Expo	8	9
10 Mother's Day 9:30 SS/Adult Bible Study 10:45 Worship w/Communion Happy Mother's Day 6 th Sunday of Easter	11	12	13	14 10:00 Bible Study	15	16 Armed Forces Day
17 9:30 SS/Adult Bible Study 10:45 Worship w/Communion 12:00 Council Meeting 7 th Sunday of Easter	18 West District Pastor's Conference	19 West District Pastor's Conference	20 Newsletter Deadline West District Pastor's Conference	21 No Bible Study Pastor on Vacation	22 Pastor on Vacation	23 Pastor on Vacation
24 9:30 SS/Adult Bible Study 10:45 Worship w/Communion	25 Memorial Day 	26	27 10:00 Newsletter Committee	28 10:00 Bible Study	29	30
The Day of Pentecost						
31 9:30 SS/Adult Bible Study 10:45 Worship w/Communion The Holy Trinity						

May 2026

	Elder	Ushers	Acolyte	Lector	Flowers by...	Counters
SUN 3	Steve Lochmann Robert Floyd	Andrew Raddle Dan Reiderer	Emily Saylor	Erin Foster	Pastor & Donna Marshall "for all our family birthdays"	Judy Clinton Julie Shorts Sharon Calabretta
SUN 10	Steve Shorts Steve Lochmann	Harold Jacob Robert Floyd	Espen Riederer	Steve Shorts	JP & Phyllis for "JP's birthday"	Joyce Anne Green Charleen Weathers
SUN 17	Bill Witt Steve Shorts	Dan Riederer Andrew Raddle	Hope Puddephatt	Robert Floyd	Steve & Julie Shorts "To God be the Glory"	Tricia Jacobs Cherrie Bradley Lynne Russell
SUN 24	Phillip Dunger Bill Witt	Harold Jacob Steve Lochmann	Kaleigh Frye	Cherrie Bradley	Joyce Anne Green "Jim's birthday and their 25th Wedding anniversary"	Phillip & Amanda Dunger
SUN 31	Robert Floyd Phillip Dunger	Steve Lochmann Bill Witt	Ainsley Riederer	Steve Lochmann	Arleen Parsley "God's Blessings"	Phillip & Amanda Dunger

Trinity Lutheran Church Worship Service Attendants

Altar Care: Kaye Meins, Phillis Dunger

Trinity Lutheran Church
4200 Old Warren Road
Pine Bluff, AR 71603
Tel. No. (870) 534-4316

Return Service Requested

Recipient's Name
Street Address
City State 95555

Trinity Lutheran Church

Pine Bluff, Arkansas



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