POINTS TO PONDER: Words matter ... for they paint images in our minds ...

Example: 1 Corinthians 4:1– in various English translations —

- <u>New International Version</u>: This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as <u>servants</u> of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed.
- <u>English Standard Version:</u> This is how one should regard us, as <u>servants</u> of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.
- <u>King James Bible:</u> Let a man so account of us, as of the <u>ministers</u> of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.
- <u>Weymouth New Testament:</u> As for us Apostles, let any one take this view of us--we are Christ's <u>officers</u>, and stewards of God's secret truths.
- <u>Young's Literal Translation:</u> Let a man so reckon us as <u>officers</u> of Christ, and stewards of the secrets of God,

So, is Paul saying to regard him as a "servant", a "minister", or as an "officer"?

Translators, for the most part, try to faithfully convey the original text in a manner that allows us to "connect" with the original intent. For understanding the intent of the original language, it may be helpful to ponder things from the original hearers' perspective – What did they hear or read from their cultural perspective?

In other letters, Paul uses the equivalent of "bond-slave" (doulos) in Greek to convey the "servant of Christ" image. Paul selected a different Greek word to convey a mental image in 1 Corinthians 4:1: Paul uses the Greek word "hupéretés", related to a servant or slave, -- literally meaning an "under-rower". The Greek term originates from the manning of oars in a warship designed to ram other ships, these "trireme" were kept short and maneuverable by stacking the oarsmen on three different decks. The lowliest slaves manned the oars on the bottom oar deck. A drum was used to coordinate the oars-men's actions. We need to take care with the literal meaning – by Paul's time the meaning evolved to imply someone aware of their place as a subordinate rower: someone who serves with hands; the officers and attendants of magistrates, or attendants of a king; the soldiers of a king; an attendant of a synagogue; or one ministering or rendering service.

Essentially, Paul paints a picture of church leadership as having the "attributes of an under-rower": someone who knows their place in life; not a position of prestige, but rather someone who serves the Master of the Ship (Christ) to propel the ship (Church) to the beat of a master drummer (Spirit) – one who acts under direction, doing the appointed tasks without hesitation.

So, in English, Paul's words convey the image of an officer, and a minister, and a slave or servant.

So, what does that mean for us? <u>Ponder this:</u> Maybe, just maybe, it means that all members of the Church, even if we perceive ourselves as the lowest of servants (an under-rower) ... Well ... we need to listen to that drummer (God's Spirit) to discern our role on this ship called "the Church". Find your calling, for you have one ...

Next time maybe we will ponder the part about "...stewards of the mysteries of God."

Chuck

Announcements

Serving This Month:

Altar Guild – Pam Dekle

Greeter – Wayne Dekle

Readers for Sunday Services

June 2- Karen Kight

June 9- Velda Keen

June 16- Chuck Keen

June 23- Maria Barnes

June 30- Linda Alderson

Learning with Fellowship

Ladies Bible Study: We take a break until the fall of 2024. All ladies are welcome to join us when we resume the study in the fall. Watch for the announcement when we resume.

Sunday School: Each Sunday, 9 am to 9:45 am in the Educational Building. Open to all adults and children before church service. Coffee will be served. We will discuss the scripture readings for the following Sunday.

Meetings

Council Meeting June 10th at 10 AM

Pot-Luck Meal – June 30th -Last Sunday after service

Services

Sunday 10 AM.

LCMC Texas District Upcoming Events

Save the Date

July 9-12 - LCMC Youth Event in Des Moines, Iowa

July 26-27 - Texas District Annual Gathering in Kerrville, Texas

We'd love to hear (and share) what your congregation is up to! Do you have some exciting congregational news to share, working on any mission projects, or hosting a special event that you would like to invite other congregations to?

Please send us your updates today!

For more information <u>CLICK HERE</u> for Hyperlink to Web page at https://www.lcmctexas.org/events-calendar/



Mission Moment



Texas District

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt Director of Mission Growth

What is LOVE WORKS All About?

You might have noticed the black and yellow promotional material that we've been sending out for a few months promoting LOVE WORKS. You might be asking, "What in the world are they talking about?" If you have, well I'm glad you asked. If you have not been curious, well I hope you are interested now! LOVE WORKS is our theme for the 15th Annual LCMC Texas District Gathering this summer, July 26-27 at Zion in Kerrville. The theme this year was born out of the story of the Good Samaritan in Luke chapter 10. Our District Council selected this as the biblical foundation for our Gathering to focus our attention on our call to love God and our neighbors.

We are excited to welcome Greg and Susan Finke to be our keynote speakers. Greg is a Lutheran pastor, author, speaker, and leadership coach who, along with his wife, Susan, has dedicated his ministry to helping the church rediscover the art of loving neighbors with the love of Jesus. Greg has authored three *Joining Jesus* books, with his wife Susan co-authoring their most recent book, *Joining Jesus as a Family*.

It was Greg who suggested the title LOVE WORKS for two particular reasons. First, we read in Ephesians 2:8-10, For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift—not from works, so that no one can boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do. Therefore, while our good works will never save us nor prosper us with blessings from God, we are saved for good works and are called to love the works that God created us for. Second, in his work with congregations and leaders, Greg is more convinced than ever that LOVE actually WORKS to share the Good News of Jesus with our neighbors and to see lives and communities transformed by the in-breaking of the Kingdom of God as Christ dwells among us.

I am thrilled to once again listen and learn from Greg and Susan Finke. Even more than that, I cannot wait to see what the Lord will do as people from across our association are impacted by this Gathering! I want to personally invite you to attend. If you have never been to one of our Gatherings before, I am confident that you will be abundantly blessed by the worship, fellowship, education, and inspiration that you will experience. If you are veteran attendee, then you already know how great these Gatherings are and we welcome you to join us again. Looking forward to seeing you in Kerrville! #LoveWorks2024

Learn more and register online: www.lcmctexas.org/annual-gathering. Register by June 30 and save!

Pastor Bryce Formwalt is the Director of Mission Growth for LCMC Texas District and Program Director of Harvest Workers, an online ministry training program (learn more at www.harvestworkers.net). Residing in Georgetown, Pastor Bryce is available to coach congregations on mission. Please contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 or bryce@lcmctexas.org.

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June 2024

Annual Gathering



LUKE 10:27



July 26 - 27, 2024 Zion Lutheran Church Kerrville, Texas

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Greg & Susan Finke Authors of the *Joining Jesus* Book Series

FEATURING:

18 Breakouts to Choose From
Designated Youth Track
20+ Exhibitors
Great Food & Worship

TICKETS:

Adult - \$75 thru 6/30 | \$100 after
Under 21 - 50% off

lcmctexas.org/annual-gathering



Why Harvest Workers?

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Church Season	Date	Festival	First Reading	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
Pentecost	June 2	Second S. a.	Deut. 5:12–	Psalm 81:1–	2 Cor. 4:5–	Mark 2:23–
	(Prop. 4)	Pentecost	15	10	12	28 (3:1–6)
	June 9 (Prop.	Third S. a.	Gen. 3:8–	Psalm 130	2 Cor. 4:13	Mark 3:20–
	5)	Pentecost	15	r saiiii 150	— 5:1	35
	June 16	Fourth S. a.	Ezek.	Psalm 1	2 Cor 5:1-10	Mark 4:26–
	(Prop. 6)	Pentecost	17:22–24	r Saiiii 1	(11-17)	34
	June 23	Fifth S. a.	Job 38:1–	Psalm 124	2 Cor. 6:1-	Mark 4:35–
	(Prop. 7)	Pentecost	11	PSdIIII 124	13	41
	June 30	Sixth S. a.	Lam. 3:22-	Dealm 20	2 Cor. 8:1–9,	Mark 5:21–
	(Prop. 8)	Pentecost	33	Psalm 30	13–15	43
	July 7 (Prop.	Seventh S. a.	F1- 0.1 F	Dl 100	2 Cor. 12:1-	Ml- C-1 10
	9)	Pentecost	Ezek. 2:1–5	Psalm 123	10	Mark 6:1–13
	July 14	Eighth S. a.	Amos 7:7–	Psalm 85:	E-1-1-2-14	Mark 6:14–
	(Prop. 10)	Pentecost	15	(1–7) 8–13	Eph. 1:3–14	29
	July 21	Ninth S. a.	I 22-1 C		Eph. 2:11–	Mark 6:30-
	(Prop. 11)	Pentecost	Jer. 23:1–6	Psalm 23	22	44
	July 28	Tenth S. a.	Gen. 9:8–	Psalm	Eph. 3:14–	Mark 6:45–
	(Prop. 12)	Pentecost	17	136:1–9	21	56
	Aug. 4 (Prop.	Eleventh S. a.	Ex. 16:2-	Psalm	Enh 4.1 16	John 6:22-
	13)	Pentecost	15	145:10-21	Eph. 4:1–16	35
	Aug. 11	Twelfth S. a.	1 Kings	Psalm 34:1–	Eph. 4:17—	John 6:35–
	(Prop. 14)	Pentecost	19:1–8	8	5:2	51
	Aug. 18 (Prop. 15)	Thirteenth S. a. Pentecost	Prov. 9:1– 10 or Josh. 24:1– 2a, 14–18	Psalm 34:12– 22	Eph. 5:6–21	John 6:51– 69
	Aug. 25 (Prop. 16)	Fourteenth S. a. Pentecost	Is. 29:11– 19	Psalm 14	Eph. 5:22– 33	Mark 7:1–13
	Sept 1. (Prop.	Fifteenth S. a.	Deut. 4:1–	Psalm 119:	Eph. 6:10-	Mark 7:14–
	17)	Pentecost	2, 6–9	129–136	20	23
	Sept. 8 (Prop. 18)		Is. 35:4–7a	Psalm 146	James 2:1– 10, 14–18	Mark 7:(24– 30) 31–37
	Sept. 15 (Prop. 19)	Seventeenth S. a. Pentecost	Is. 50:4–10	Psalm 116:1–9	James 3:1– 12	Mark 9:14– 29
	Sept. 22	Eighteenth S. a.	Jer. 11:18– 20	Psalm 54	James 3:13—	Mark 9:30– 37
	(Prop. 20)	Pentecost	20		4:10	
	Sept. 29	St. Michael and All Angels	Dan. 10:10– 14; 12:1–3	Psalm 91	Rev. 12:7– 12	Matt. 18:1– 11 or Luke 10:17– 20
	or (Prop. 21)	Nineteenth S. a. Pentecost	Num. 11:4– 6, 10–16,	Psalm 104: 27–35	James 5:(1– 12) 13–20	Mark 9:38– 50

2nd Half of 2024 Lectionary Year Calendar Three-Year Series : "B" thru end of Nov., then year "C"								
Church Season	Date	Festival	First Reading	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel		
			24–29					
	Oct. 6 (Prop. 22)	Twentieth S. a. Pentecost	Gen. 2:18– 25	Psalm 128	Heb. 2:1–13 (14–18)	Mark 10:2– 16		
	Oct. 13 (Prop. 23)	Twenty-first S. a. Pentecost	Amos 5:6– 7, 10–15	Psalm 90:12– 17	Heb. 3:12– 19	Mark 10:17– 22		
	Oct. 20 (Prop. 24)	Twenty-second S. a. Pentecost	Eccl. 5:10– 20	Psalm 119:9– 16	Heb. 4:1–13 (14–16)	Mark 10:23– 31		
REFORMATI ON	Oct. 27 (observed)	Reformation Day (Oct. 31)	Rev. 14:6– 7	Psalm 46	Rom. 3:19– 28	John 8:31–36 or Matt. 11:12–19		
	or (Proper 25)	Twenty-third S. a. Pentecost	Jer. 31:7–9	Psalm 126	Heb. 7:23– 28	Mark 10:46– 52		
ALL SAINTS' DAY	Nov. 3 (observed)	All Saints' Day (Nov. 1)	Rev. 7:(2–8) 9– 17	Psalm 149	1 John 3:1–3	Matt. 5:1–12		
	or (Prop. 26)	Twenty-fourth S. a. Pentecost	Deut. 6:1–9	Psalm 119:1–8	Heb. 9:11–14 (15–22)	Mark 12:28– 37		
	Nov. 10 (Prop. 27)	Twenty–fifth S. a. Pentecost	1 Kings 17:8–16	Psalm 146	Heb. 9:24– 28	Mark 12:38– 44		
	Nov. 17 (Prop. 28)	Twenty-sixth S. a. Pentecost	Dan. 12:1– 3	Psalm 16	Heb. 10:11– 25	Mark 13:1– 13		
THANKSGIV ING	Nov. 28	Thanksgiving Day	Deut. 8:1– 10	Psalm 67	Phil. 4:6–20 or 1 Tim. 2:1–4	Luke 17:11– 19		
Nov. Church Vo	Nov. 24 (Prop. 29)	Last S. of the Church Year	Is. 51:4–6	Psalm 93	Jude 20-25	Mark 13:24– 37		
New Church Ye	ai Starts Here	(Series C)				Luke 19:28–		
ADVENT 2024	Dec. 1 2024	First S. in Advent	Jer. 33:14– 16	Psalm 25:1– 10	1 Thess. 3:9– 13	40 or Luke 21:25– 36		
	Dec. 8	Second S. in Advent	Mal. 3:1– 7b	Psalm 66:1– 12	Phil. 1:2–11	Luke 3:1–14 (15–20)		
	Dec. 15	Third S. in Advent	Zeph. 3:14– 20	Psalm 85	Phil. 4:4–7	Luke 7:18– 28 (29–35)		

2nd Half of 2024 Lectionary Year Calendar -- Three-Year Series: "B" thru end of Nov., then year "C"

Church Season	Date	Festival	First Reading	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
	Dec. 22	Fourth S. in Advent	Micah 5:2– 5a	Psalm 80:1– 7	Heb. 10:5– 10	Luke 1:39– 45 (46–56)
	Dec. 24 Eve	The Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas Eve)	Is. 7:10–14	Psalm 110:1–4	1 John 4:7– 16	Matt. 1:18– 25
CHRISTMAS 2024	Dec. 25 Midnight	The Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas Midnight)	Is. 9:2–7	Psalm 96	Titus 2:11– 14	Luke 2:1–14 (15–20)
	Dec. 25 <i>Dawn</i>	The Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas Dawn)	Is. 62:10– 12	Psalm 98	Titus 3:4–7	Luke 2:(1– 14) 15–20
	Dec. 25 <i>Day</i>	The Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas Day)	Is. 52:7–10	Psalm 2	Heb. 1:1–6 (7–12)	John 1:1–14 (15–18)
	Dec. 29	First S. a. Christmas	Ex. 13:1– 3a, 11–15	Psalm 111	Col. 3:12–17	Luke 2:22– 40
	Dec. 31	Eve of the Circ. and Name of Jesus (New Year's Eve)	Is. 30:(8– 14) 15–17	Psalm 90:1– 12	Rom. 8:31b– 39	Luke 12:35– 40

