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A message from Pastor Quinn

Carl Ferdinand Wilhelm Walther: He's Risen, He's Risen

“Indeed I plainly judge, and do not hesitate to affirm, that except for theology there is no art that could be put on the same level with music.” Those words of Martin Luther show us that the great theologian was also dedicated to music. He saw how beautifully God’s gift of music served as a vehicle for the proclamation of God’s holy word. It should come as no surprise, then, that C. F. W. Walther, sometimes called “the American Luther,” was not only a great theologian but also an accomplished musician. While his reputation as a confessional Lutheran theologian surpasses his reputation in music, the Easter season gives us the opportunity to consider the only Walther hymn we have in *Christian Worship*.

One in a long line of Lutheran pastors, C. F. W. Walther was born on October 25, 1811 in Saxony, Germany. He studied theology at the University of Leipzig and after his graduation served as a tutor for a time before his ordination into the public ministry in 1837. He left Germany shortly thereafter to escape the rationalism which had infected the German church. He came to Perry County, Missouri near St. Louis with Pastor Martin Stephan and 750 other confessional Lutherans. Walther eventually became the leader of the Perry County colony, serving as pastor of Old Trinity congregation in St. Louis. He also, in 1844, began to publish a confessional Lutheran periodical entitled *Der Lutheraner* to promote confessional Lutheranism among the German immigrants in America.

In the mid to late 1840s Walther headed up a committee to compile hymns for a new hymnal for use in the St. Louis congregations. Regarding the selection of hymns for this collection Walther wrote:

In the selection of the adopted hymns the chief consideration was that they be pure in doctrine; that they have found almost universal acceptance within the orthodox German Lutheran Church and have thus received the almost universal testimony that they have come forth from the true spirit (of Lutheranism); that they express not so much the changing circumstances of individual persons but rather contain the language of the whole church, because the book is to be used primarily in public worship; and finally that they, though bearing the imprint of Christian simplicity, be not merely rhymed prose but the creation of a truly Christian poetry (*Der Lutheraner*, June 15, 1848).

The hymnal was published in 1847, the same year Walther became president of the newly formed Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and Other States. Walther served two separate stints as president of the Missouri Synod. He also served as professor and president at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis and was instrumental in the formation of the Evangelical Lutheran Synodical Conference, a conference of Lutheran synods in America which included the Wisconsin Synod. In fact, Walther was a key player in the formerly liberal Wisconsin Synod’s move towards confessional Lutheranism.

Throughout these years Walther’s musical gifts on both the piano, the organ, as well as in hymn writing and composition are a matter of historical record. Take some time this Easter season to read through and even sing the verses of “He’s Risen, He’s Risen” (CW 143). It is a hymn that not only captures the joy of the season, but the meaning of Christ’s resurrection for us today and for eternity – a true gem

from this great Lutheran theologian and musician.

*Oh, where is your sting, death? We fear you no more;
Christ rose, and now open is fair Eden's door.
For all our transgressions his blood does atone;
Redeemed and forgiven, we now are his own (CW 143, stanza 4).*

Coming up in May

May 1 Confirmation
May 19 Last day for Little Lambs for the summer
May 23-27 Grades 6-8 Washington D.C.
May 29 Summer Worship Schedule Begins

Schedule Change for Summertime

It doesn't seem like it's time already to be thinking about changing our Sunday morning schedule but it is. With Memorial Day Week-end coming up our worship schedule will be changing. Beginning on Sunday, May 29th our worship services will be at 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM. This will continue until Labor Day Week-end in September. Then beginning on Sunday, September 11th our Sunday services will go back to the 8:00 AM and 10:45 AM schedule.

Our Shut-ins

Please remember our shut-ins in your prayers.

Please see your paper copy of the newsletter, or call the church office, for information about our shut-ins.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Here are the birthdays and anniversaries for May. If you would like to be included in Good Shepherd's roster, please check with Pam Krueger or let the church office know.

Birthdays in May are:

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| May 1 | David Delu |
| May 3 | Elizabeth Roslund |
| May 7 | Pam Krueger |
| May 12 | Meredith Shaffer |
| May 13 | Ann Gunsell |
| May 14 | Mary Shaffer |
| May 14 | Shari Foster |
| May 15 | Nathan Marquardt |
| May 19 | Ernie Perry |
| May 21 | Jarrod Nelson |
| May 21 | Ellen Pifher |
| May 22 | Judy Krueger |
| May 26 | Luke Gunsell |
| May 26 | Mary Daenzer |
| May 28 | Kriss Arbury |
| May 29 | Hannah Farquharson |
| May 30 | Gary Daenzer |

Wedding Anniversaries in May are:

May 18 Gary and Mary Daenzer

Camp Killarney

Are you looking for a great summer program for your children or family? Registration is NOW OPEN for summer camp 2011 at Killarney. Five sessions are available for June and July to meet all ages and interest. These include: Teen Retreat (9-12th grades), Family Camp (all), Genesis Mini Camp (2-6th grades) and two Adventure Camps (2-8th grades).

Camp Killarney is a WELS camp located in the Irish Hills of Michigan. Brochures and registration forms are available online: www.killarneycamp.org or call 517-467-7603.

We study God's Word

Scriptures for May 2011

May 1 Easter 1

Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 16
I John 5:4-12
John 20:19-31

May 8 Easter 2

Ezekiel 34:11-16
Psalm 67
I Peter 2:21-25
John 10:11-16

May 15 Easter 3

Isaiah 40:26-31
Psalm 23
I Peter 2:11-20
John 16:16-23

May 22 Easter 4

Isaiah 49:1-15
Psalm 33
James 1:16-21
John 16:5-15

May 29 Easter 5

Isaiah 55:6-11
Psalm 66
James 1:22-27
John 16:23-30

1996 Mount Everest Disaster

On May 10-11, 1996 eight people died on Mount Everest during summit attempts when a blizzard struck Rob Hall's group of climbers and Scott Fischer's group. Lou Kasischke had signed on for the trip to the summit of Mount Everest with Rob Hall's group. Many books have been written about the 1996 season and the resulting tragedy including Jon Krakauer's *Into Thin Air*.

Lou Kasischke, a survivor of the tragedy, will speak on May 15th at 3:00 PM at Michigan Lutheran Seminary. Lou is the son of long-time MLS Governing Board Chairman, Rev. Emil Kasischke. The presentation is free but you must have a ticket. Reserve a ticket by calling the MLS Foundation office at 989-793-7511 or toll free 866-MLS-WELS.

These were the potters, and those that dwelt among plants and hedges: there they dwelt with the King for his work.

I Chronicles 4:23

A lowlier task on them is laid,
With love to make the labour light;
And there their beauty they must shed
On quiet homes, and lost to sight.
Changed are their visions high and fair,
Yet, calm and still, they labour there.

Anywhere and everywhere we may dwell with the King for His work. We may be in a very unlikely or unfavourable place for this; it may be in a literal country life, with little enough to be seen of the 'going' of the King around us; it may be among hedges of all sorts, hindrances in all directions; it may be, furthermore, with our hands full of all manner of pottery for our daily task. No matter! The King who placed us 'there' will come and dwell there with us; the hedges are all right, or He would soon do away with them; and it does not follow that what seems to hinder our way may not be for its very protection; and as for the pottery, why, that is just exactly what He has seen fit to put into our hands, and therefore it is, for the present, 'His work'.

F. R. Havergal

It's Camping time!

Mike & Pam Krueger invite you to join them for a
weekend of Camping
at

Rifle River State Park June 10-12, 2011.

They have reserved Site 8 in the
Grousehaven Lake Modern
Campground.

Make your reservations now at
www.midnrreservations.com

Or

Call 1-800-44-PARKS

Sites are \$23 a night.

Voters' Assembly, April 19, 2011

News from the Voters' Assembly

Changes in Membership:

Robert Jarosiewicz, Wayne Gobeski, and Marjorie Lane were received as communicant members on the basis of their confirmations during the first quarter of the year.

Zachary, Elizabeth, Caleb, Alexander, and Benjamin Humphrey were received as baptized members on the basis of their Holy Baptisms 17 January 2011. Hudson Anderson was received as a baptized member on the basis of his Holy Baptism 13 February 2011.

John Pretzer transferred to our sister congregation, St. John's in Hemlock. Nancy Ehlers transferred to our sister congregation, Good Shepherd in Alma.

Other Business:

The president of the congregation will appoint an ad hoc committee to carry out a comprehensive plan to assess our membership, budget, and short and long term ministry needs and how facility expansion (including building and parking lot) fit into our future ministry goals.

The Voters approved a Board of Education and Church Council recommendation to extend a Divine Call to Pastor Quinn to serve as principal for the 2011-2012 school year while Mr. Fetcenko finishes the principal apprentice program. We have requested that our synod's assignment committee make Mr. Fetcenko's assignment to Good Shepherd permanent this May. Mr. Fetcenko would assume full principal responsibilities beginning with the 2012-2013 school year.

The following Board of Education recommendation was also approved by the Voters:

The Board of Education recommends to the Church Council and the Voters the following tuition policy for non-members beginning with the 2012-2013 school year. Tuition per pupil per year shall be \$2,000.00. A 10% discount shall be applied to the tuition of children of families with more than one child attending the LES. The discount does not apply to the first child, only subsequent children. Non-

member WELS students shall have their tuition assessed to their home congregations. If the home congregation does not pay the full amount, the remaining debt shall be forgiven. The parents will not be asked to pay the remaining debt. Non-member students of other denominations or those students without a church home will have the tuition waived for the first year the family sends a student to our Lutheran Elementary School provided the parents enroll in the Adult Bible Information Class (which is a requirement to enroll the student). Recognizing the privilege and responsibility of sharing God's Word, we will not make tuition debt our sole consideration when determining future enrollment of non-members. Proposed changes to this policy will be brought before the Church Council and the Voters' Assembly for approval.

The WELS Connection, a monthly video highlighting ministry in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, is available on a DVD from the church office for anyone who would like to view it. There will be monthly inserts which provide a little more information regarding each month's video. The WELS Connection is also available to view on the WELS website, www.wels.net. We will be adding a link to our website which takes you directly to the video so you can watch it at your own convenience.

At least eight area WELS congregations (including Good Shepherd) are planning a summer pig roast. Part of the festivities will include a concert performed by Koine, a Lutheran band. The tentative date for the pig roast is Saturday, August 13th. Please watch for more concrete information in the weeks ahead.