



Church Of the Reformation - Lutheran  
The Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod  
With Christ at the Heart

Christus  
COR

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Reverend David C. Pelsue, Pastor  
Website: [www.reformationstl.org](http://www.reformationstl.org)



January,  
a Month for Life

During the month of January we will be accenting the sanctity of human life at Reformation in a number of ways.

We will feature some short videos during the Bible Class from various perspectives, including a man's heart for life; women's stories of love and rescue; and testimonies from children whose mom's chose life.

"Portraits of Grace" from Lutheran Family and Children's Services in the narthex will feature pictures and information about children looking for a family that are available for adoption from the State of Missouri.

Banners from Lutherans for Life of Missouri depicting stages of life, Bible verses for life and other information will grace our narthex during other weeks in January.

Sanctity of Life Sunday is January 19<sup>th</sup> And the bulletin insert theme is "L.I.F.E. -Living In Faith Everyday . . . by living sexually pure and decent lives." It is based on Titus 2:11, 12

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,

Together we celebrate another new year of Life in Christ. God bless us every one.

*Pastor Pelsue*

Change for Life!

January is the month marked for change. It's a new year. People have made or are making resolutions to change things in their life, like eating habits, health and fitness. Even the creation is changing. Days are getting longer, the sun is getting stronger.

January is also the month marked for life. Things are changing and the world is coming to life after we've passed the heart of winter. **Since 1973 in the U.S. human life at its most fragile stages has been under attack by the onslaught of a culture of selfishness and indulgence.** Through these years Christians have taken continuous steps to turn the tide: The annual March for Life (650,000 last year); Vitae Society raising awareness; Foster Care; Nurses for Newborns locally; Thrive (support encouraging life and healthy choice); Life Chain; 40 Days for Life and more.

Some at COR have aided in many of these efforts along the way, and that's great! With the help of Thrive St. Louis, I have a simple way all our members can make a change for life. It's a campaign I'm calling just that: **"Change for Life!"**

Here's how it works. Pick up a baby bottle from the table in the narthex and take it home with you. Put it in a prominent place in your home. Every day each member of the family puts their change (quarters, nickels, dimes, pennies) into the bottle. When the bottle is filled bring it back to church and place it into the "Change for Life" box. Then take another empty bottle and repeat the process. This will be an ongoing campaign this year at COR.

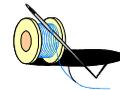
Each full bottle pays for an ultrasound in Thrive's mobile unit. **Over 90% of abortion-minded women who see the ultrasound of their baby choose life.** In 2012 alone 1,130 lives were saved through the work of Thrive. You can make a Change for Life with your support.

Serving Christ (the author of life),  
*Pastor Pelsue*



# JANUARY NEWS & NOTES

## CARE & SHARE



The Care & Share group will meet on **Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 a.m.** for the assembling of quilts, layettes, laprobes, etc. All ladies of the congregation are invited to join them. For more information about Care & Share, please call Lois Schoech (968-1882) or Marion Lewis (832-4358)

### SPECIAL UPCOMING SERVICES

New Year's Eve - Tuesday, December 31, 2013  
7:00 p.m. - Evening Prayer

New Year's Day - Wednesday, January 1, 2014  
Divine Service - 10:00 a.m.

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas -  
Sunday, January 5, 2014  
Worship - 8:15 & 10:45

Bible Class/Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.

Epiphany of Our Lord - Monday, January 6, 2014  
Divine Service - 7:00 p.m.

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



Please be sure you have all items/articles for the February newsletter into the church office by no later than **Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>**. Articles may be e-mailed to [secretary@reformationstl.org](mailto:secretary@reformationstl.org), faxed (314-352-7652), or placed in the church secretary's mailbox.

### MEN'S CLUB NEWS

**Defibrillator Training** - The Men's Club would like to announce a defibrillator refresher/initial training which will occur between services on **Sundays, January 5<sup>th</sup> and January 12<sup>th</sup>**. We will have a DVD presentation that will provide refresher training for those who have already been trained as well as give members who have not been trained some insight on how the device functions. We invite all members of the church to attend one of the DVD presentations. Also, we would like for those who have been trained when we did the initial training, to please sign the sheet posted in the hallway on the bulletin board.

### MONDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASS



The Monday Evening Bible Class will resume on **January 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** They will continue their study of the Gospel of Matthew. All are invited to join! Contact Seminarian Adam Matheny at [amatheny@live.com](mailto:amatheny@live.com), with any questions.

### CHRISTMAS UN-DECORATING

On **Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a.m.**, everyone is encouraged to come and help take down the church Christmas decorations.



The more people the merrier and all help will be greatly appreciated.

### NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Please extend your warmest welcome to COR's newest members:



#### **Ms. Sandra Raasch**

8520 Mackenzie Rd., Apt. 3311,  
St. Louis, MO 63123-3472  
314-638-1662

#### **Ms. Verlene Lorenzen**

10176 Squire Meadows Dr., Apt. 3, 63123-5169  
314-973-1916

**Mr. Scott Powers** (fiancé of Hannah Schrader)  
7424 Lansdowne, 63119-2836

#### **Ms. Mirnesa Zahirovic**

10176 Squire Meadows Dr., Apt. 3, 63123-5169  
314-973-1916

#### **Ms. Allison McIlvaine**

10047 Buffton Dr., St. Louis, MO 63123-5203  
314-807-4156

### RETIREES EVENT



When it turns cold in winter, one's thoughts turn to comfort food and staying indoors! Please

join us on **Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon** for a Comfort Food Pot-luck and White Elephant Bingo! Spend time indoors from the cold with your COR Retiree's family. Please sign up on the bulletin board across from the church secretary's office if you plan to attend.



**CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS!**

**“We’re Checking in the County Hospital”**

Please join us on **Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon** as we meet in our

Hospital Cafeteria (i.e. our Fellowship Hall) and share an Old style hospital lunch and enjoy some therapy (Laurel and Hardy short comedy from 1932). Please come dressed as a patient, lab tech, nurse, doctor, or other staff. If you are a patient – come bandaged and/or with orthopedic equipment such as sling, crutches, etc. Be as creative as you like as we mock our injuries with a sense of humor. **I promise – there will be no deductibles or co-pay – just good ole fellowship.** See the Christian Fellowship bulletin board to sign up for dishes needed to complete our *boring* lunch.

**Overnight Road Trip to Branson**

Christian Fellowship will schedule an overnight group-road-trip to see the live production of *Jonah* at the Sight & Sound Theatre in Branson, MO. The production opens on March 26<sup>th</sup>. This “massive production features breathtaking effects including a multifaceted 40 foot tall ship that breaks a part ... and an immersive underwater scene with a shocking reveal of the big fish that swallows God’s misguided prophet. This sweeping musical intertwines powerful themes of love, mercy, obedience, and second chances. Watch as Jonah sojourns on a trek of rediscovery to where he eventually finds himself and the all-merciful heart of God.”

If there is enough interest in this overnight road-trip – we will go! Those who are interested can notify Jill in person or by email at [jill6872@att.net](mailto:jill6872@att.net) so that a first meeting may be set to discuss group logistics and questions. See the Christian Fellowship bulletin board for more details.

**AFFTON FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION!**



Please bring the suggestions items (listed below) and place in the grocery cart in the parish hall or the hamper in the narthex. Please no glass containers or clothing! All food is donated to the Affton Christian Food Pantry and helps individuals and families in the Affton area.

**Entrée items:** Hearty beef stews; chicken n’ dumplings, canned tuna, chili, etc.

**Dry Pasta** including Ramen noodles.

**Meal Accompaniments:** Pasta and rice mixes.

**Paper Products:** Toilet & facial tissue, paper towels, and laundry detergent.

**Hygiene:** Toothpaste, bar soap, deodorant.

**Condiments:** Ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise.

Thanks for your help! *Reformation Ladies Club*

**THANK YOU**



Dear Reformation Family,  
I would like to thank everyone who helped to decorate the church for Christmas. The church looks beautiful! Thanks also to the Men’s Club who provided a continental breakfast for all the helpers – it was great! Thanks again for all the help! In Christ, *Pastor Pelsue*

**2014 BULLETIN BOOSTERS**



The New 2014 Bulletin Booster Chart is now up! If you would like to sponsor a week of church bulletins, please fill in your name (and dedication) on the lines under the week you would like to underwrite. Insert your check for \$10.00 in the “Bulletin Boosters” envelope and place in the offering plate or the church secretary’s mailbox. The envelopes are located next to the chart. Checks should be made payable to Reformation.

**THE 2014 FLOWER CALENDAR**



The new flower calendar is now up on the narthex bulletin board. If you would like to purchase flowers for the altar, fill in your name on the Flower Chart on the date you would like to reserve and complete the form located under the calendar. Place the form along with your check for \$30.00 in the offering plate or the secretary’s mailbox. The increase in price is due to using a more reliable florist, but the bouquets are much nicer. Checks should be made payable to Reformation. No flowers will be ordered unless the check is received in advance. Thanks for your cooperation.



**TIME TO RENEW THE LUTHERAN WITNESS**

*The Lutheran Witness* is a great way to find out what’s happening in The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. Each monthly issue is packed with up-to-date information about people and places, letters from readers and humor, plus much, much more. A one year subscription is \$15.60. Write your check out to

Reformation Lutheran Church, place it in the "Lutheran Witness" envelope which is included in your box of church envelopes and put in the offering plate on Sunday or mail to church. New subscriptions are due to begin in April. **The list with all subscriptions must be in to the church office by no later than January 26<sup>th</sup>.**

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### **MAKING ABORTION UNTHINKABLE WORKSHOP**



The Concordia Seminary Life Team will offer a workshop titled "Making Abortion Unthinkable" on **Saturday, January 25, 2014**, to be held in Sieck Hall 202 on the Seminary campus. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., the program begins at 9:00 a.m., and will conclude at 2:30 p.m.

The learning will include video-based presentations as well as discussions segments. Dr. Jeffrey Gibbs, professor of New Testament at Concordia Seminary, will serve as the moderator for the workshop. Each participant will also receive a helpful manual of materials. The workshop will strengthen and clarify understanding for those who attend, as well as equip them to speak more effectively and winsomely on behalf of the unborn.

Pre-registration with payment is due by January 17. The \$20 per person fee includes lunch and the manual; there is no charge for Seminary students or their spouses.

For more information or to pre-register, please visit [www.csl.edu](http://www.csl.edu), email [ce@csl.edu](mailto:ce@csl.edu) or call 314-505-7286.

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### **CAMP WARTBURG RETREATS**

Camp Wartburg in Waterloo, IL is hosting several retreats throughout the months of January and February.

Caregivers' Retreat; Scrapbooking Retreat; Secretaries' Retreat; Youth Leaders' Retreat; Women's Retreat; and a Men's Retreat. All Retreats are sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Go to [www.campwartburg.com](http://www.campwartburg.com) or see the bulletin board for more details.

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### **CONCORDIA SEMINARY VISITATION EVENTS**

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, will host three visitation events for prospective students in January.



#### **Shepherds of God's Flock: January 9, 2014**

Designed for those in college or older, this retreat will focus on the spiritual and personal aspects of the decision-making process. You will have a chance to explore questions you may have in a relaxed, retreat-

like atmosphere on the Seminary campus, as you: talk with current Seminary students about their decisions to prepare for being shepherds of God's flock; mine the depths of the Scriptures concerning this office; worship with the Seminary community in chapel; and talk with other retreat guests from around the country who are contemplating such service. Participants are also encouraged to stay through Friday, January 10 to attend "Green and Gold Days," allowing for time to sit in on Seminary classes.

#### **Green and Gold Days: January 10, 2014**

Green and Gold Days are for men and women college and older who are thinking about becoming pastors or deaconesses. These are one-day events that provide a quick opportunity for prospective students to come and see all the Seminary offers. Participants interact with current students, attend classes, worship in the chapel, and speak with members of the faculty.

#### **Taste of the Sem: January 18-20, 2014**

Taste of the Sem is an opportunity for high school men to spend a weekend at the Seminary to study theology, pray, worship, meet and talk with Seminary students and professors. Participants will spend time with one Seminary student at his field education congregation on Sunday morning and attend classes with him on Monday morning. The event is designed to provide a sense of Seminary life for those who think God might be directing them toward the pastoral ministry. Throughout the weekend, visitors can also participate in sports tournaments for volleyball, basketball, foosball, and ping-pong.

To view a brochure of each of these events and to register, visit [www.csl.edu](http://www.csl.edu) or call 1-800-822-9545.



### **LUTHERAN CONVALESCENT HOME AUXILIARY MEETING**

**Monday, January 27, 2014**

**11:30 a.m.**

**Luncheon Meeting**

The January meeting presenter is John Kotovsky and he will speak on "What's Happening in 2014." The meeting will take place at the Laclede Groves Auditorium, 723 So. Laclede Sta. Rd., Webster Groves. Contact Erylnne Gaebler at 314-968-6977 for reservations.

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**WINTER LAY BIBLE INSTITUTE**

***“Praise to Thee Who Light Dost Send:  
Concordia Seminary at 175”***

**Concordia Seminary (Sieck Hall, Room 202)  
801 Seminary Place**

**January 8, 15, 29 and February 5, 2014  
Wednesday evenings - 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.**

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, will host its winter 2014 Lay Bible Institute, *“Praise to Thee Who Light Dost Send: Concordia Seminary at 175,”* presented by Dr. Gerhard Bode, Assistant Professor of Historical Theology at Concordia Seminary.

In 2014 Concordia Seminary celebrates the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding. Since its beginnings in the Log Cabin College in 1839, Concordia Seminary has served Lutheran congregations and schools across the country, staking its theological and cultural place in the world around it. This year especially Concordia Seminary remembers God’s great blessings through the decades, giving thanks and praise to Him who sends “Light from Above.” This Winter Lay Bible Institute will offer an in-depth look at the history of Concordia Seminary. Telling the story through images and pictures, the course will explore how the Seminary has served church and world throughout its history.

Cost is \$30 per person and includes handouts and refreshments. For more information or to register by phone with credit card, call 314-505-7486, or [www.csl.edu](http://www.csl.edu). Registration deadline is January 3, 2014.



**WINTER VACATIONS**

Pastor Pelsue will be on vacation from Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> thru Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. Sheri will be on vacation on Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup> and Monday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. Please keep these dates in mind if you need something from the church office.

**VICARAGE FUND NOW TO BE  
MISSIONARY SUPPORT FUND**

The Vicarage program has been a blessing for many years at Reformation. We give thanks to God for the pleasure of taking part in the training and preparation of so many wonderful young men for the Office of Holy Ministry. In recent years the cost of hosting a vicar has continued to rise and our ability as a congregation to raise these funds annually has been unable to keep

pace. At our current rate of accruing funds we would not be able to host a vicar but every 5 years or more – a less than ideal situation for continuity of the program for the Seminary, for COR or for future vicars.

For this reason we searched for alternative opportunities to support Word and Sacrament ministry in the Church at large.

Hopefully you remember Pastor Roger James who attended our congregation years ago during his post graduate work at the Seminary. He was our guest preacher and led the Bible Class for us this past summer on June 16<sup>th</sup> telling us about our Missouri Synod’s mission work in Sri Lanka, the tear drop shaped island off the Southeast coast of India. Pastor James was being called there to oversee the mission work in Sri Lanka. Our Church Council has had some discussion about support for Roger’s mission work in Sri Lanka since that time.

In preparation for the annual Voters Meeting, I personally called members of COR who have been supporting the Vicarage Fund over the past couple of years to ascertain if there were any objections to considering using remaining Vicarage Funds to pledge support for this Mission work.

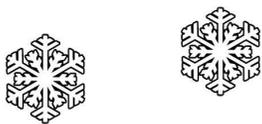
In our December Voters Meeting a resolution was passed to eliminate the Vicarage Fund and establish a Missionary Support Fund which at this time will specifically support Rev. Roger James and his family in Sri Lanka at a rate of \$2,000 annually.

So, to be clear, funds currently in the Vicarage Fund or donated thereto through any vicarage envelopes will go to the Missionary Support fund sustaining Rev. Roger James’ work in Sri Lanka. Please see the latest news from Sri Lanka attached and previous newsletters from Pastor James on the hallway bulletin board.

May God bless His Church here, in Sri Lanka, and throughout the world.

*Pastor Pelsue*





# JANUARY BIRTHDAYS!!

4<sup>th</sup> Tony Kubasta  
 9<sup>th</sup> Andrew Geiser  
 10<sup>th</sup> Grace Pelsue  
 12<sup>th</sup> Ronald Paul  
 14<sup>th</sup> Donna Franklin  
 15<sup>th</sup> Dan Dowling  
 Megan Hemmer

21<sup>st</sup> Kenneth Lewis  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Joseph Rowland  
 Arline Ulrich  
 25<sup>th</sup> Mary Jane Autry  
 27<sup>th</sup> Jerry Bierman

28<sup>th</sup> Austin Starns  
 29<sup>th</sup> Carol Feuerhahn

**GOD'S BLESSINGS TO  
 YOU!**

## January Schedule

### 8:15 Service

### 10:45 Service

#### **Altar Guild Schedule:**

January 1<sup>st</sup>  
 January 5<sup>th</sup>  
 January 6<sup>th</sup>  
 January 12<sup>th</sup> Both  
 January 19<sup>th</sup>  
 January 26<sup>th</sup>

10:00 a.m. - Julia Graudin  
 Julia Graudin  
 7:00 p.m. - Julia Graudin  
 Julia Graudin  
 Julia Graudin

Karen Liebmann  
  
 Karen Liebmann

#### **Greeters Schedule:**

January 5<sup>th</sup>  
 January 12<sup>th</sup>  
 January 19<sup>th</sup>  
 January 26<sup>th</sup>

Lisa Adams  
 Mark & Julia Graudin  
 Sandy Townsend  
 Inga Duke

Denny & Jan Schrader  
 Joyce & Carol Drechsel  
 Norma Grau  
 Carol Geiser

#### **Ushers Schedule:**

Jamie McAlister  
 Rick Miller  
 Tyler Schrader  
 Denny Schrader

Martin Liebmann  
 Martin Liebmann, IV  
 Haven Liebmann

#### **Acolytes Schedule:**

January 5<sup>th</sup>  
 January 12<sup>th</sup>  
 January 19<sup>th</sup>  
 January 26<sup>th</sup>

Katie Meyer  
 John Larson  
 Katie Meyer  
 John Larson

Mary LaFlamme  
 Alex Jeffcott  
 John Schilling  
 Haven Liebmann

