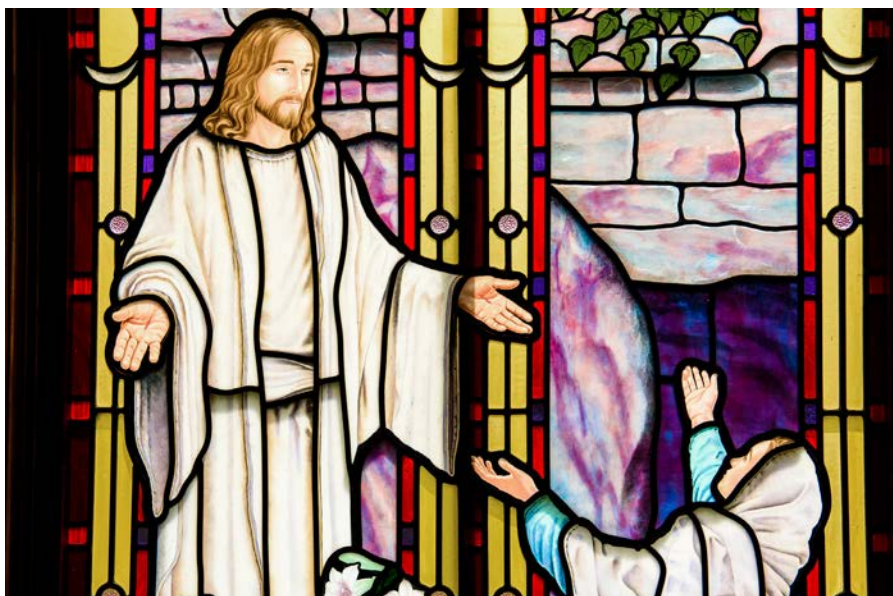




PEAKS AND VALLEYS

DISTRICT NEWS



like the women on that first Easter morning.

Yet the message of Easter had not changed, nor will it ever change. Over 2,000 years ago, Christ rose from the dead! Every year we celebrate that fact, whether in person or virtually.

The pandemic did give pause for reflection. One had the opportunity to consider the heart of the day — to truly reflect on its meaning. Regardless of how we felt, the day has significance. The resurrection verifies Christ’s victory over sin, death and Satan!

We do well to remember how Job suffered. He experienced the loss of herds, flocks and servants, the death of his 10 children and the affliction of boils over his body. Yet, he expressed hope:

“For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.”

— Job 19:25-27

Centuries before Christ’s life, death and resurrection, Job anticipates the benefits of Christ’s resurrection from the dead. Job’s words encourage us to fix our eyes on Jesus and our divine appointment to meet him in eternity. The apostle Paul writes:

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The unchanging Easter message



Rev. Roger Schlechte
District President

After the crucifixion and burial of Jesus, several women embarked on an early Sunday-morning walk to His tomb to perform their final act of love, that of embalming His body. When they arrived, sadness turned to puzzled thoughts. Joyous excitement enveloped them once they realized that Jesus had risen from the dead, just as He said He would! He kept his Word!

Last year, Easter was not the usual exciting day for Christians. Worship services were conducted with skeleton crews. At best, anemic exchanges of joyous refrains occurred between pastor and those present, “Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!”

No triumphant singing. No Easter breakfast or brunch. For most people, it was virtual worship. It’s not what we had hoped and planned for a month prior. Our hearts felt empty, not being able to join with our brothers and sisters in Christ to celebrate His resurrection. We felt somewhat





LuHi set to expand

On Feb. 22, Lutheran High School (LuHi) in Parker, Colo., broke ground for a two-story, 20,000-square-foot wing that will significantly expand and upgrade LuHi's mission to serve the rapidly growing community surrounding the school. The new wing will include six classrooms along with a new counseling center and cafeteria.

The brief groundbreaking ceremony was held during the morning chapel so students could hear about God's blessings and get excited about what is coming to the campus. Dan Gehrke, LuHi executive director, led chapel, delivering a message about God's provision

for Lutheran High School, which has served in the Denver metropolitan area since 1955. Chapel concluded with a prayer walk around the construction site.

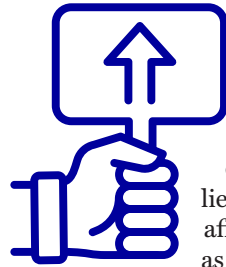
In attendance were Juls Clausen, the first principal at the current campus in Parker, members of the school board and several donors. Construction is scheduled to be completed before the end of the year.

Lutheran High School wishes to thank all who have generously donated toward this effort and who have persistently prayed for the mission and ministry of this school. This year, like none other, those prayers have sustained its teachers and students. Glory be to God!

Participating in the groundbreaking ceremony are, from left, Elle Anderson (student body president), John Paulus (school board president), Dan Gehrke (LuHi executive director), David Ness (principal) and Juls Clausen (past principal).

LVR holding online auction

Lutheran Valley Retreat (LVR) is excited to announce that it will host its seventh annual silent auction, and for the first time it will be held virtually. A virtual event will give more people the opportunity to participate and find unique items, trips and experiences on which to bid.



Join LVR for this important event. The auction is LVR's biggest fundraiser of the year and proceeds go toward helping those children, youth and families — who otherwise could not afford it — attend camp; as well as keeping costs affordable for everyone else.

Register for the auction at www.auctria.com/auction/LVRAuction202.

The auction will last two weeks, giving everyone plenty of time to see all the items and place bids on anything that is of interest. Please mark your calendars for April 17–May 1 and

Do you want to know more about LVR and their camps? Visit lvr.org or send an email to lvr@lvr.org.

Multiethnic Symposium goes online

This year's Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, online Multiethnic Symposium, "The Rest and the West: What the West Can Learn from Global South Christianity," will address what the Global South can contribute to our thinking about practices in music, worship, missions, ethics and teaching theology as the church strives to become truly multiethnic. The symposium is scheduled for May 4-5.



Highlights of the event include:

- ▶ A keynote presentation by Dr. Philip Jenkins, distinguished professor of History in the Institute for Studies of Religion, Baylor University, Waco, Texas.
- ▶ The 15th Annual Lecture in Hispanic/Latino Theology and Missions by Dr. Marcell Silva Steuernagel, assistant professor of Church Music and director of the Sacred Music Program in the Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas.
- ▶ A plenary by Dr. Vince Bantu, assistant professor of Church History and Black Church Studies, Fuller Theological Seminary, Houston, Texas
- ▶ A plenary by Dr. Samuel Deressa, assistant professor of Theology and the Global South, Concordia University, St. Paul, Minn.

Sectionals led by various presenters will also be available.

Registration is \$35 per person and the deadline to register is April 19. Visit concordiasem.regfox.com/multiethnic-symposium-2021.

Ready for LWML convention?

The 39th Biennial LWML Convention will be held in Lexington, Ky., June 24-27. A final decision on whether to go ahead with holding the convention in person or making it online only was to be made by March 19, after this issue was printed.

Should the convention be held in person, extra measures are being taken to ensure safety.

Pre-convention seminars and servant events will be held on Thursday, June 24. Tours will be offered before and after convention. For more information, visit lwml.org/2021-convention.

The early registration deadline has been extended to April 14.

If you are not able to attend the convention in person, all sessions and the worship services will be livestreamed, and the Photo Finish Mission Walk on Saturday afternoon will be a virtual event. Join in the excitement of convention in praising our Lord!



EASTER

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. —Rom. 8:18

The glory of eternity wins over the sufferings of this world, hands down!

Merciful God, enable us to endure suffering and keep it in perspective as we await our entrance into your eternal presence, where You will wipe all tears from our eyes!



Conventions postponed

The congregations of the LCMS have approved, by over 90 percent, a proposal to extend the current 2019–2022 triennium, pushing the Synod’s previously scheduled 2022 national convention to 2023 and extending the timeline for districts that wish to delay their conventions from 2021 into 2022. More than 63 percent of Synod congregations voted.

As a result, the Rocky Mountain District Board of Directors has delayed the district convention one year. It will now be held in June 2022. Due to this delay, congregational assessments for the district convention should not be sent in April as earlier requested. Motel and other contracts must be renegotiated for the 2022 convention, after which a new assessment will be sent to congregations.

DISTRICT CALLS

Calls extended

- ▶ University Lutheran Chapel, Boulder, Colo., to **Rev. Andrew Preus**, Trinity/St. Paul, Guttenberg/Gregor, Iowa.

Calls declined

- ▶ **Rev. Timothy Cartwright**, Conover, N.C., emeritus, to Trinity, Greeley, Colo., as intentional interim pastor.

Called to glory

- ▶ **Lois Schuetz**, Houston, Texas, emeritus (taught at Faith Lutheran School, Denver, for 30 years).



We've moved ... UPDATE OUR ADDRESS

The Rocky Mountain District has a new location and needs your help to get the news out. The staff has settled in and the boxes are unpacked, but the mailbox is empty! Please take a minute to change the mailing address in your contacts, accounting software and payee address information if you use the “Bill Pay” option through your banking institution for offerings mailed directly to the district.

The phone number has remained the same, but the new address is:

The Rocky Mountain District, LCMS
88 Inverness Circle East
Unit A-210
Englewood, CO 80112

Share your news with us!

We are always in need of more submissions for *Peaks and Valleys*. Why should you send them in? It helps remind us of what God is doing around the Rocky Mountain District. It is also a way to share ideas for nurturing those God has already gathered into His church and for reaching those still outside of the flock with the Good News about Jesus. It finally reminds each of us that Christ’s Church is much larger than just our particular congregation.

We welcome pictures and stories of congregational events, youth events, outreach events, installations, events from your men’s or women’s group, servant events, conferences, anniversaries, church renovations or additions, and much more. If you would like an upcoming event publicized, please make sure we have the information at least two months in advance. *Please send pictures as JPEG attachments, 300 dpi.*

Please send submissions to Jan Hoener at communications@rm.lcms.org. You may also mail your submissions to Jan at 5446 Knoll Place, Highlands Ranch, CO 80130.

The deadline for the June-July 2021 issue is April 15.

