



The Door

“Sharing the Love of Jesus Christ with All People”

The Holiest Thing You'll Ever See

The Christian author C.S. Lewis once wrote: “Next to the Blessed Sacrament itself, your neighbor is the holiest object presented to your senses.”

By “Blessed Sacrament,” Lewis meant the bread and wine of communion, and it's probably not surprising that he would consider that the holiest thing we'll ever see. What may be surprising is the second part of that statement; that after communion, the holiest thing we'll ever see or touch is another human being.

That's right: sloppy, dirty, imperfect human beings are holy. Your co-worker who can't pick up after herself is holy. That whiny child in the store is holy. The jerk who just cut you off in traffic and almost caused an accident is holy.

Humans are holy because we're created in God's image, because Jesus considered us precious enough to live and die for our benefit, and because (like the bread and wine of communion) God's presence can somehow become real in us.

We humans do not always live up to that holiness or show it on the outside. When I say "Jesus loves you" to that jerk in traffic it's usually sarcastic instead of a statement of fact, but I have found that when I can take Lewis's words seriously, it makes a difference in how I treat people. When I think, "God loves this person" I can find a little more patience, a little more understanding, and find myself a little less frustrated or angry.

I've been thinking and reading and talking a lot recently about how to get along with other people because it seems to be a concern right now. There is a general consensus that we aren't as polite, tolerant, or open-minded as we ~~used to be~~ *need* to be as a society. No one likes the division we're seeing in our world right now, but no one's quite sure how to deal with it.

I don't have perfect answers, but I firmly believe that the God who told us to "love one another," "love your enemies," and forgive "seventy-seven times" does not want us to live divided or suspicious. And I believe the Church has a role to play in this, helping to proclaim God's reality in our world.

If we can more frequently find the faith to believe that one of the holiest things we'll ever be close to another human being, perhaps we can see the Holy Spirit breathe a little more peace into this world and the Church can heal the wounds of division. And that would be blessed indeed.

In God's Amazing Grace,

Pastor Ari

(This article adapted from a post on my blog at arimattson.blogspot.com)

Hooray for Hollywood! Our Cross+Generational Faith Adventure was so much fun!



Rally Sunday!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

FAITH STORYTELLING BETWEEN SERVICES

LUNCH AND FELLOWSHIP AFTER 2ND SERVICE

Memorial Garden Bricks available to purchase

ORDER FORMS ARE IN THE NARTHEX OR BY CONTACTING MARY FELKNER

Host Coffee Hour!

Sign up in the Narthex!



Community Breakfast at Redemption

**ON THE 3RD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH
8AM TO 10:30AM
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**



MLC LIBRARY NOW OPEN!

**CHECK OUT OUR NEW LOCATION
OUTSIDE THE CONFERENCE ROOM**

God's Work. Our Hands in our Community

JOIN US SEPTEMBER 29TH AFTER SECOND SERVICE FOR A COMMUNITY OUTREACH SERVICE EVENT. LUNCH PROVIDED.

Office Closed September 2nd for Labor Day

September Birthdays

	Date
Stephanie Adrihan	September 19
Lori Avila	September 09
Wendy Buettner	September 09
Brianna Burks	September 07
Mary Felkner	September 12
Lois Fuhrmann	September 23
Lois Goetzke	September 21
Tom Jones	September 30
Melissa LaFontaine	September 29
Olivia LaFontaine	September 04
Scott Manske	September 29
Fredric Meyer	September 05
Evan Moore	September 26
Diane Olson	September 29
Kaia Plautz	September 23
Mary Smith	September 09
Steve Thinnies	September 01

September Anniversaries

	Date	Years
Jordan & Marie Emmons	September 27	5
Lois Fuhrmann & Don Lampien	September 29	18
Donna & John Hoppe	September 20	33
Lani & Tim Knutson	September 21	16
Amber & Juan Restrepo	September 12	10
Ginny & Jerry Smeiska	September 24	70
Michelle & Todd Wenzel	September 19	21

**Martin Luther Lutheran
Church, ELCA**

9235 W Bluemound Rd

Milwaukee, WI 53226

Our 5 Cornerstones



Engaging The Bible

Giving in Service

Building Loving Relationships

Growing in Worship

Daily Acts of Faith

Martin Luther Church, as a congregation, welcomes and celebrates the richness and diversity of all God's people, regardless of where they've come from or where they are in their life's journey. All are welcome as members of the Body of Christ, as workers in the kingdom of God, and at the table of our Lord.

When You Need to Get in Touch

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