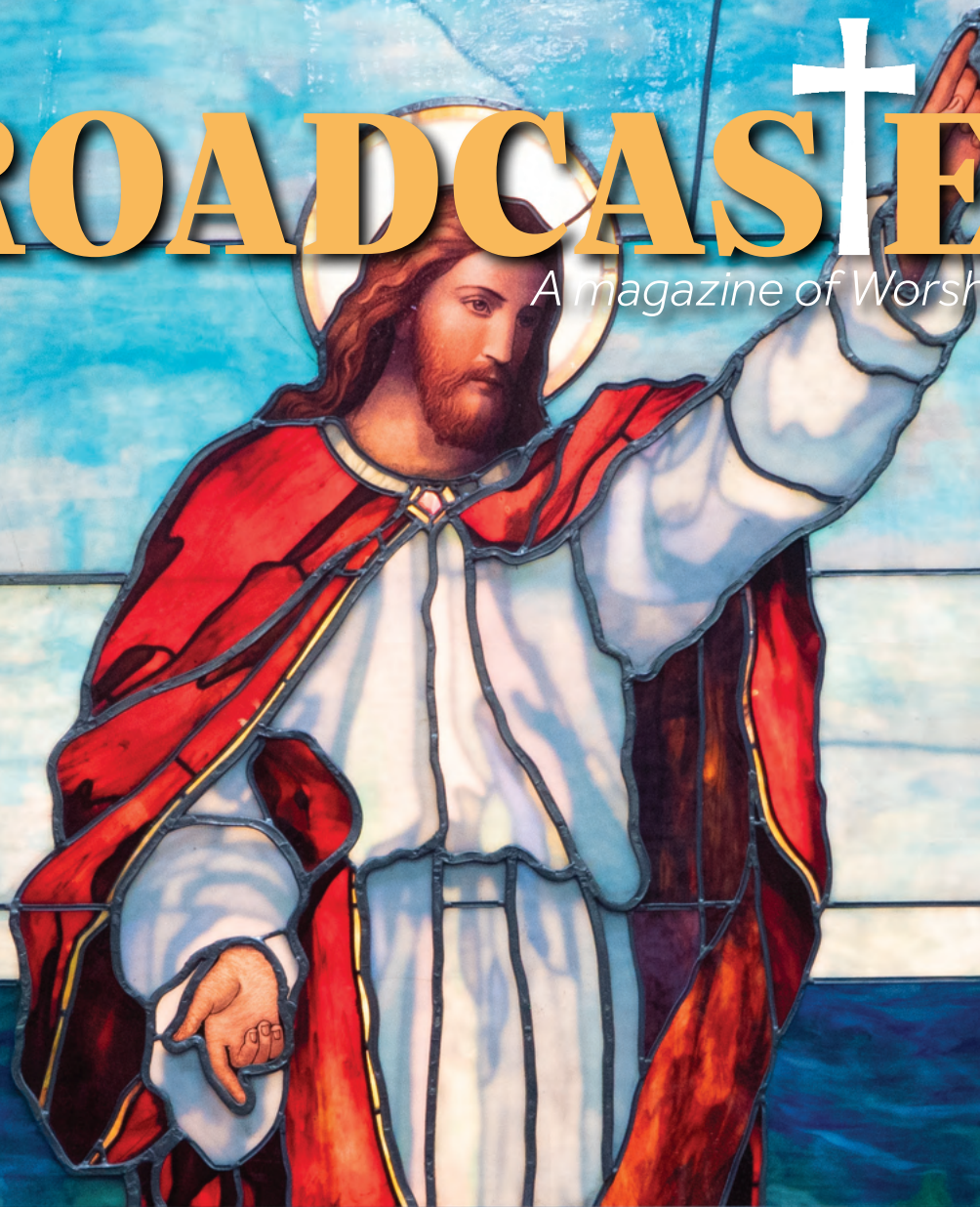


June 2024

BROADCASTER

A magazine of Worship Anew



Legacy of Faith &
FAMILY

UNITED IN FAITH

The Role of Community in Manifesting God's Love



Matthew F. Leighty

Matthew F. Leighty
Executive Director

A while back, I heard about someone who had been diagnosed with cancer, but they didn't want others to know. This confused me because I thought they would like to share this information with others so more people could pray for them.

In reality, it's not all that uncommon to hear about someone facing a debilitating illness or life situation, but they prefer not to let others know. When I had recently shared this thought with my wife, she pointed out that I do the same thing. Wow! She was right. Sometimes, I struggle to be open and vulnerable with people. Outside of my wife, I rarely open up to others about things that might bother me, whether emotional or physical.

Ever since Adam and Eve, God has given us the gift of companionship through family and close friends to journey with us throughout this life, the good and the

bad. As Colossians 3:12-13 (ESV) clearly states, "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive." Just as we state in the Lord's prayer, "And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." These words remind us of the strength that comes from forgiveness and understanding in our relationships and how they can empower us and bring us closer to God.

In a study Worship Anew conducted with Barna ("Aging Well") to assess the needs of our aging population, we found that individuals feel more loved as they age. However, this feeling of being loved is significantly stronger for those who are part of a community than for those who are isolated and alone.

Cover Photo by Paul Melin

The new stained glass windows that adorn the studio were donated by Trinity Lutheran Church in Evansville, Ind.



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Worship Anew engages and equips aging adults with resources to live a full and abundant life in Jesus Christ.



The power of unity in Christ, as underscored in 1 Thessalonians 5:11 (ESV), is a testament to the sense of community and mutual encouragement we can experience. “Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.” This unity allows us to truly feel the love of God, especially as we age. The work being carried out every day at Worship Anew seeks to shine a light on a family or community’s role in fostering a sense of love and belonging among aging adults.

However, it’s not just about feeling loved. It’s about *knowing* that our Heavenly Father loves you. It’s about *knowing* that you’re not alone in your struggles because we have a Savior who knows our every worry. In times of joy, but also in times of sorrow and hardship, God is always with us.

As we journey through life, we may encounter physical

limitations, health issues, and various changes. However, these should not deter us from living a life filled with the abundance of Christ. On the contrary, these challenges can draw us closer to God, reminding us of our reliance on Him and His unwavering love for us.

Let us keep in mind the words of the Apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 12:9 (ESV), “But he said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses so that Christ’s power may rest on me.”

As we age and acknowledge our weaknesses, we become conduits for His immense strength, enabling us to live abundantly and with love at every stage.

Let us, therefore, encourage one another, build each other up, and live out our years in this love.

“Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.”

Colossians 3:12-13 ESV

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*By Ashley Wiehe
Director of Communications*

NEW LIFE FOR CHURCHES

Art, beauty, and most importantly, the message of Jesus Christ shine through on stained glass windows. The colors and panes of glass weave together a story of God's love and our redemption.

For many churches, stained glass lives at the heart of their church and acts as a centerpiece for their congregation. So, when the announcement of a church closure happens, it can be heartbreaking to not know what will happen to these wonderful pieces of art.



Watch this video to learn more about the Stained Glass Window installation. Watch by using your camera app to scan the QR code or visit WorshipAnew.org/glass



These three stained glass windows adorn the studio and are featured behind choirs on productions.

LOSED CHURCH

On Dec. 27, 2020, Trinity Lutheran Church in Evansville, Ind., held its final service as a congregation. But, their story did not end there.

Through the work of many hands to move and restore the windows, the stained glass windows that once lined their sanctuary have found a new home at Worship Anew.

“These are the windows that are not just decorative and beautiful, but also carry a Christian message,” said Laureen Baggett, a member
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at Trinity who helped to coordinate the move of the windows to Worship Anew. “When we learned they would be able to carry that message to millions on a regular basis, we were overjoyed.”

Trinity had a long, near 180-year history in Evansville. It was the first Lutheran church in the area, and was formed because the settlers in the area — many German settlers — wanted to build a church. The first meeting in that church was Jan. 17, 1841.

“Trinity was the mother church to at least five other area Lutheran churches and was known as ‘the church of the mayors’ as many important political and industrial figures were among her members,” Baggett said of the 400-member capacity church. “Our architecture, organ, and windows were known far and wide to be among the best and most beautiful in the area.”

As it has happened with other Lutheran churches across the nation, the latter part of the 20th century brought a decline in their membership and their ability to continue at Trinity.

“God’s Word marches on, and God’s children, but not so much brick and mortar structures,” Baggett said.

As discussions began about selling the sanctuary, Baggett began reaching out to organizations that may be interested in the stained glass windows.

“I really had a heart for what they were going through,” said Matthew Leighty, executive director of Worship Anew.

Through continued discussions, Baggett and the Worship Anew team began to work on the 300-mile trek



that the stained glass windows were going to take to their new home in the Wolf Chapel Studio.

In order for the windows to be placed in Fort Wayne, Ind., at Worship Anew, the windows had to be extracted from the church, taken apart piece by piece, cleaned, repaired, and then put back together for the installation. For this, the team called on the experts.

Through the work of stained glass restoration artist, Jules Mominee out of Evansville, as well as the team at Window Creations out of Ottoville, Ohio, four of the original Trinity stained glass windows now adorn the walls at Worship Anew.

“It was truly an amazing process that they went through in order to properly clean and restore the windows practically to the condition that they would have been originally over 100 years ago,” Leighty said.

The windows will be seen on the Worship Anew program starting on June 23, and are used as a backdrop for the various choirs who share their gifts each week.

“As (the choirs) walk into the studio, they’re going to see not only Tiffany-stained glass windows, but they’re going to see the story and be able

to share with the viewers as they’re singing,” said Paul Melin, Worship Anew’s director of video production and accessibility. “They’ll be able to reflect on the history of those stained glass windows.”

For those that visit the studio, the stained glass window that depicts Martin Luther is shown in the main atrium of the building.

“These stained glass windows are able to bring to life what we know in God’s Word,” Leighty said. “They are able to bring tremendous encouragement and comfort to so many people as they tune into this program on Worship Anew.”

The stained glass windows will officially be dedicated during a special ceremony at 2 p.m. Sept. 29 at Worship Anew.

“We appreciate the opportunity through these stained glass windows to be able to carry on that legacy that Trinity in Evansville has been able to instill in us through the work of this ministry,” Leighty said. “We are so blessed to be able to carry out the work that we do in preaching God’s Word, and we will continue to do that until the day that the Lord returns.”

A History in Glass

Trinity's stained glass windows join a history of other stained glass windows that are shown each week on Worship Anew and adorn the studio space in Fort Wayne, Ind.

More than 20 years ago, Worship Anew (Worship for Shut-Ins at the time) began using stained glass windows as a transition during the program as the pastor is speaking. Paul Melin, Worship Anew's director of video production and accessibility, captures these images, as well as images of the church (inside and out), with his drone camera.

The use of stained glass on the program then grew when the ministry received a donation from another church, Trinity Lutheran Church in Glencoe, Ill., of their windows when they had closed. Those windows are shown behind the pastor on Worship Anew as well as throughout the office building in Fort Wayne.

"One of the things that viewers oftentimes will comment about is how much they love to see the images of churches and stained glass windows that are shared on the program," said Matthew Leighty, Worship Anew's executive director. "The stained glass windows help to depict and to bring to us images of God's Word, and they are able to really provide for a great sense of comfort and peace and encouragement."

If you are interested in seeing the stained glass windows at Worship Anew or visiting for a tour, please contact us at (888) 286-8002 or info@worshipanew.org.



The Martin Luther stained glass window is located in the atrium of the Worship Anew offices.



Above (and top left): Teams of workers came together to remove and restore the stained glass windows from Trinity Lutheran Church for their move to Worship Anew.

You're Invited

**STAINED GLASS WINDOW DEDICATION
2 PM SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**

Worship Anew, 5 Martin Luther Drive,
Fort Wayne, Ind. 46825

All are welcome. Program will begin at 2 PM.

The *Quick* Gospel of Mark

The Spirit *immediately* drove him out into the wilderness.
Mark 1:12

And *immediately* he left the synagogue ...
Mark 1:29

Immediately he made his disciples get into the
boat and go before him to the other side ...
Mark 6:45

And *immediately* all the crowd, when they saw him,
were greatly amazed and ran up to him ...
Mark 9:14

Mark is a quick Gospel. Not only is it the shortest of the four Gospels, but there is a sense of haste that you pick up on as you read it. Every chapter seems to have a new adventure driving the book forward.

The word *immediately* (*euthus* in biblical Greek) occurs 41 times in the book of Mark, and only 10 other times in other New Testament books.

The word immediately is used in different ways in Mark. Sometimes immediately describes the movement of people toward Jesus. People heard what Jesus could do (heal the sick, feed a multitude, raise the dead), and they ran to Him for help. Some who ran to Jesus for help are similar to people today who sprint to the next health fad, the next workout regimen, the next mindfulness practice, in order to find comfort, meaning, and purpose. We know as believers that Jesus is the right place to go. But, when you only want what Jesus can do to make your life better, but you don't want Jesus, there's a problem. In all of the Gospels, we see Jesus being misunderstood.

Jesus also acts with immediacy. Jesus didn't stop because people struggled with understanding who He is and what He came to do. He went from one place to the next, from one person to the next, teaching them, healing them, praying for them, and then He continued on to the cross.

When we get lost in our haste to ease our burdens, we can remember that we have a Savior who didn't get lost on His path to save us. We don't have to wait for His gifts of forgiveness and grace. Even though we sometimes need to wait for our desires to be fulfilled, Jesus gives us what we need right away for each day. Let us also act with immediacy to share His love and forgiveness with all.

euthus



Worship Anew in June

Year 2024 | Series B



The Lord of the Sabbath

June 2, 2024 – Second Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

Jesus says that He is the Lord of the Sabbath, because as God He gave the Sabbath law, and He came to fulfill perfectly this law. In fact, Jesus fulfilled all the commandments perfectly for all people. Therefore, come to the Lord of the Sabbath in faith and find blessed rest.

Sermon Text: Mark 2:23-28

Readings: Psalm 81:1-10; Deuteronomy 5:12-15; Mark 2:23-28



All Sins Forgiven

June 9, 2024 – Third Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Thomas Eggold

The Holy Spirit is still present, and the Holy Spirit is still active, and the place where the Holy Spirit works is in God's Word, and the time when the Holy Spirit speaks is now. And so today, the Holy Spirit is here to save you in this Word of Christ: "Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven ..." (Mark 3:28 ESV).

Sermon Text: Mark 3:28

Readings: Psalm 130; Genesis 3:8-15; Mark 3:20-35



Scattered Seed

June 16, 2024 – Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Shayne Jonker

The seed of the Word of Christ grows and produces fruit in being scattered, in being preached, proclaimed, and spoken. It's scattered when pastors preach and missionaries go out in mission. It's also scattered in the vocations of your daily lives, with seed bags full of ripe, fruitful seed.

Sermon Text: Mark 4:26

Readings: Psalm 1; 2 Corinthians 5:1-10; Mark 4:26-34



Who is This?

June 23, 2024 – Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Paul Shoemaker

Life's challenges confront us all, even us Christians. When those calamitous life events occur, we look to our God in confidence, knowing He is with us and will guide us through such challenges. In Him we have the ultimate victory over sin, death, and the power of the devil.

Sermon Text: Mark 4:35-41

Readings: Psalm 124; Job 38:1-11; Mark 4:35-41



The Sparkle

June 30, 2024 – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. William Mueller

Mark 5:21-43 contains two wondrous miracles of Jesus: a woman with a constant discharge of blood who is healed, and the ruler of a synagogue's daughter who is raised from the dead. Borrowing and adapting a retelling of this account by Christian author Max Lucado in his book, "Six Hours One Friday," this message will tell, in story form, the joy of Jesus' eternal love for sinners — even you and me!

Sermon Text: Mark 5:21-43

Readings: Psalm 30; Lamentations 3:22-33; Mark 5:21-43

2.0

ERIC KASCHINSKE SHARES OF HIS SIX YEARS AS HOST OF WORSHIP ANEW

*By Ashley Wiehe
Director of Communications*



Eric Kaschinske has
been the host of Worship
Anew since 2018.

Each week, Worship Anew viewers can count on seeing one face above all others — one face that provides them a warm welcome and an introduction for that week's pastor — Eric Kaschinske.

Since 2018, Eric has been the host for the Worship Anew programs. He followed the 25-year career of Don Luepke, who served as the host, beginning in 1992 when the program was called "Worship for Shut-Ins."

For Eric, following in Don's footsteps was natural because he had already been doing it for years. He first followed Don by student-teaching with him at Concordia Lutheran High School in Fort Wayne, Ind., then teaching in the same math department as him, then taking over as the math department chair, and then serving as the Barnabas Award organizer (a program at the high school that honors servant-hearted students), and finally, serving as the host of Worship Anew.

"I taught with Don for many years, and it's weird how often I've kind of followed some of the things that he's doing," Eric said. "Don just mentors and challenges in a unique way."

Eric and his wife, Amy, live in Fort Wayne and have three children (Mason 23, Rhaya 21, and Landon 19).

"It's sort of funny
that we are in their
roles, if you will.
Yes, 2.0. We're the
Luepkes 2.0."

He and his wife met as students at Concordia University-River Forest (now Concordia University-Chicago) where he was studying to be a teacher, and she was studying to be a nurse.

Neither were from Fort Wayne, even though they have now called the city their home for more than 28 years. They said

it was great mentors, like Don and his wife, Ellen, that brought them to Indiana and shaped their decisions in college and beyond.

"(In starting college), I didn't have any understanding of who I was or why I was ending up there, but you know,

fast forward 30 years, and you totally see the hand of the Holy Spirit in all of it,” Amy said of her time at Concordia.

“I’m very thankful for a lot of great mentors, especially in high school, but even some in college, that helped me to just listen and talk me through things,” Eric added. “Don being a big one of those.”

Eric began as host of Worship Anew after a suggestion from Don when he was retiring. After spending years building him up as a teacher, Don was ready to hand over a new role to him as host.

“It’s really many times overwhelming and humbling,” Eric said of being on Worship Anew. “There’s a lot of things that have impressed me or made a big impact on me, but one of them is that I just didn’t realize how many people are involved in the ministry.”

As a volunteer, Eric joined a team of volunteers that make the program possible week in and week out.

“It sort of blew me away the number of people that were involved in this,” he said of the volunteers, many of whom he has had connections with through his work for the Church.

“It’s like heaven on earth,” Amy added.

And as Don first guided and inspired him, Eric is now an inspiration to his own children through his work on the program.

“It’s super cool for our kids to see him doing Worship Anew,” Amy said. “He’s always been that pillar of faith

Eric and Amy Kaschinske pose for a photo at Christmas with their children, (left to right) Landon, Rhaya, and Mason.



Eric Kaschinske poses with Don Luepke (left), the former host of Worship Anew, at their transition.

in our family. ... It’s humbling for me as his wife, and we’re all super proud of him.”

For Eric, service has become his life — serving in the classroom to countless students over the years, and for six years, serving as the host of Worship Anew.

“I have just come to appreciate not only the people at Worship Anew and all the support that I get, but just the people who view it,” Eric said.

Today, Eric still teaches math at

Concordia Lutheran High School, and Amy serves as the director of congregational health at Concordia Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne — interestingly, a position that Don’s wife, Ellen, had previously served in.

“It’s sort of funny that (Eric) and I are in their roles, if you will. Yes, 2.o. We’re the Luepkers 2.o,” Amy said with a laugh.

Watch Eric Kaschinske on Worship Anew as he introduces the program and closes it out each week.





All for the Glory

By Thomas Moll
Director of Content & Innovation

God leads author on path to sharing faith through the written word

Dr. Mary Manz Simon has a journey that is nothing short of inspiring. Born and raised on the streets of Chicago, Simon's story as a self-proclaimed "street kid" who grew and developed into a bestselling Christian author is a testament to her resilience, hard work, and faith. In all her achievements, she points to the work of her Savior, Jesus Christ, in guiding each of her steps.

Growing up in Chicago was not easy, particularly as a pastor's daughter in a family that wasn't "rolling in dough," as she explained. However, Simon views her upbringing as an enriching experience that instilled in her an appreciation for diversity and respect for other faiths. She attended Chicago public schools — where she was often one of the few Christian students present during Jewish holidays. This exposure to different cultures and practices fostered an understanding and

respect for various faith communities, a value that she carries to this day.

After getting married and moving to Saint Louis, Simon pursued her doctorate at Saint Louis University, a demanding institution. As she worked on her advanced degree, she encountered an unexpected challenge — the lack of appropriate devotional materials for her young children. In the midst of working hard to balance her roles as wife, mother, and student, Simon began writing her own devotions for her children, scribbling down reflections on God's work in their daily lives on envelopes, post-it notes, and even McDonald's napkins. These notes evolved into a nightly devotion ritual for her family.

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Dr. Mary Manz Simon shares of carrying on a legacy with her children (above) and her grandchildren (below) and her entire family (left).



Dr. Mary Manz Simon and her husband, Hank, celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with their children and grandchildren. Her work began as a need for her children and has grown into a legacy for her family.



Simon never intended to become a writer. Yet, she found herself with a drawer full of these notes that eventually became her first book, “Little Visits with Jesus,” which made it to the Christian bestseller list. And through this experience, she began an exciting new chapter in her life.

Since that first book that was born out of a need for her own children, Simon now has many books in the Library of Congress. She’s had the opportunity to work with the Berenstain Bears, VeggieTales, and has consulted on many projects such as the “Prince of Egypt,” an animated film from DreamWorks Animation.

“I was just so overcome by the moment of thinking there are 88 books of mine on these shelves, and I’m in the Library of Congress. It’s incredible,” she said. “Clearly, God had a better idea for my life than I did. I could have never dreamed it.”

A significant part of Simon’s journey includes her interactions with Fred Rogers, better known as Mr. Rogers, the beloved children’s television host. Simon remembers fondly her interactions with Mr. Rogers, who she had the privilege of interviewing for Christian Parenting Today magazine.

During the course of their conversation, she was deeply moved by the genuine warmth and kindness that Mr. Rogers exuded, traits that had endeared him to millions of children and adults across the world. She recalls how Mr. Rogers, with his trademark compassion and understanding, spoke about the importance of nurturing children’s self-worth and fostering an environment of love and acceptance.

In her interviews with Mr. Rogers, she was struck by his commitment to treating children with respect and honesty. He was a strong believer in the power of kindness and the importance of making children feel seen, heard, and valued.

Simon has preserved the cassette tapes from her interviews with Mr. Rogers, a treasure trove of wisdom and insight from one of television’s most iconic figures. These tapes, now converted to CDs, serve as a reminder of the profound effect that Mr. Rogers had on children’s television and his enduring impact on the lives of countless children and adults.

“I wrote about the listening thing because Fred (Rogers) listened,” she said. “He paused, and he listened. He paid attention. And I think in this world, that’s really what kids especially want.”

One of the lessons Simon took away from her interactions with Mr. Rogers was his approach to dealing with difficult topics. He didn’t shy away from addressing tough issues on his show. Whether it was divorce, death, or even war, Mr. Rogers was committed to helping children navigate these challenging topics with grace and empathy.

Inspired by her interactions with Mr. Rogers, Simon has strived to incorporate the same level of compassion and understanding in her own writing. She understands that just like Mr. Rogers, she has a responsibility to her young readers to provide them with content that is not only engaging but also helps them navigate the complexities of the world around them.

“When you’re at the end of one thing, you might be at the beginning of something new.”

Dr. Mary Manz Simon, quoting Mr. Fred Rogers

“When you’re at the end of one thing, you might be at the beginning of something new,” Simon said in quoting Mr. Rogers.

A new thing that Simon explored was the concept of faith stories. The work on her own faith story allowed her to look back at the amazing life experiences God had given her. Time and time again, she saw God at work. As she reflected on the things that didn’t work out the way she planned, she saw the doors that opened for her to do even more exciting things. She encourages us all to look back at how God gets us through these tough times in order to give us the courage to move forward. God will be with us in the future, with every step we take.

But in planning for the next generation, she recognizes how overwhelming it can be to fathom leaving a legacy for the future.

When we sort through all our things we could leave to others, she encourages us to reflect on all that God has given us that we can freely pass on to our family. This is a gift they desperately need in order to navigate the challenges they’ll face.

Simon is acutely aware of the changing times. Children’s reading habits have shifted dramatically from physical books to screens. To meet her grandchildren where they consume their media, she recorded her faith story in



Dr. Mary Manz Simon and her husband, Hank, complete a puzzle with their grandsons.

video form as a lasting gift to her children, grandchildren, and future generations.

Simon invites others to reflect on their own faith stories. She encourages everyone to leave a legacy that transcends material possessions — a legacy of faith, hope, and love, passed on through stories that testify to God's enduring faithfulness.

"We have all these little bits and pieces that we can't see, but God does because he's already been there, and that's where he's leading us," she said. "That's why we have to be sure that we're walking with him. That's why we have to go through the door as he opens it because we don't know what great things he has planned."

Simon's legacy is one of faith — a faith that has been tested, refined, and proven true through the trials and triumphs of her life. Her many written works, her influence on massive media projects, and the impact she's had on the faith of her own family calls us all to "tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds

of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done."

(Psalm 78:4 ESV).



During an author visit to the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., Dr. Mary Manz Simon learned that the Library has 88 of her books on the shelves.



Choosing the right retirement community

Can you help me find retirement communities that offer a range of housing options and care services, from independent living to nursing home care? I plan to downsize from my current home, and I want my next move to be my last.

If you want your next move to be your last, an all-inclusive retirement community — also known as a continuing-care retirement community (CCRC) — is a great option to consider. Here is what you should know and some tips to consider:

What are CCRCs? CCRCs are distinct from other types of senior accommodations because they provide a comprehensive range of housing, services, and care options available in one convenient location. While the appearance and services of CCRCs can vary greatly, most provide apartments or sometimes single-family homes for active independent seniors.

CCRC Features: CCRCs offer onsite assisted living for seniors who require help with daily living tasks like bathing, dressing, or going to the bathroom as well as nursing home care for residents when their health

declines. CCRCs also provide a variety of resort-style amenities and services that include community dining halls, exercise facilities, housekeeping, and transportation as well as social and recreational activities.

CCRC Costs: The national average entrance fee for CCRCs is approximately \$320,000, but these fees can range from less than \$100,000 to more than \$1 million. In addition to the entrance fee, there are ongoing monthly fees that generally range from \$2,000 to \$5,000 for singles (\$3,000 to \$6,000 for couples) depending on the facility, services, and the contract options chosen.

With more than 2,000 CCRCs in operation throughout the U.S, finding a facility that fits your lifestyle, needs and budget will require some legwork. Here are some steps that can help you proceed:

Make a list: To find CCRCs, various websites maintain databases that will match you to a community based on your preferences. Once you have located a few, contact each community to inquire about vacancies, pricing, and the availability of services wanted.



Take a tour: Many CCRCs encourage potential residents to stay overnight and have a few meals in their dining hall. During your visit, notice the upkeep of the facility and talk to the current residents to see how they like living there. Also, take a tour of the assisted living and nursing facilities and learn how decisions are made to move residents from one level of care to another.

Do some research: While on your tour, find out who owns the CCRC and review a copy of their most recently audited financial statement. Another important statistic is their occupancy rate. Unless it is a newer community, occupancy below 80 percent can be a concern that the facility is having financial or management problems.

To investigate the CCRC's long-term care services, contact your state long-term care ombudsman to inquire if the assisted living or skilled nursing care has a history of complaints or problems. You can also research quality of care on Medicare's nursing home search tool at [Medicare.gov/care-compare](https://www.medicare.gov/care-compare).

Understand the contract and fees: CCRCs generally offer three types of contracts. Life-care contracts, or Type A, have the highest entry fee but cover all levels of long-term care as needed. Modified contracts, or Type B, have lower entry fees but limit long-term care services. Fee-for-service contracts, or Type C, offer the lowest entrance fees but require you to pay extra for long-term care if you need it.

Before signing a contract, you should understand how annual price increases will occur. Other important topics to review are how much of your entry fee is refundable if you move or die and what happens if you outlive your financial resources. To help you sort through these issues, consult with your financial adviser or lawyer before signing any documents.

Savvy Living is written by Jim Miller, a regular contributor to the NBC Today Show and author of "The Savvy Living" book. Any links in this article are offered as a service, and there is no endorsement of any product. These articles are offered as a helpful and informative service to our friends and may not always reflect this organization's official position on some topics. Jim invites you to send your senior questions to: Savvy Living, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070.

Are you on YouTube?

Yes! You can now find our full Worship Anew programs on YouTube as well as all of our Moments of Comfort video devotional series and many of our specially-produced videos. When you find our YouTube channel, make sure to subscribe so that you never miss a program once it's released! You can find us at www.youtube.com/@worshipanewonline or search "Worship Anew" on your SmartTV.

Are you streaming on television?

Yes! The quickest way to find Worship Anew on your Smart television is to find your TV's search feature and type in "Worship Anew." If you have Apple TV, Roku, Vimeo, or the YouTube app, you'll be able to find our program to stream on your television. For Apple TV and Roku, you can search for the Worship Anew television app and add it to your television for quick access. For more information and instructions, visit our website at WorshipAnew.org/app.

You are no longer on in our local area. How can I find you?

We're so sorry if you have lost access to Worship Anew on your local broadcast station. Getting our program on broadcast television is difficult. Our program can get bumped by other programs that may take priority, rates can increase dramatically year to year, or a team may no longer be able to support placing our program on a public access station. If you can't find our program in your area, please reach out and let us know. You can email us at info@worshipanew.org or call us at (888) 286-8002. Be sure to let us know your city, state, and the station you found us on if we used to be on in your area. You can find the full lineup of stations where you can watch the Worship Anew program on our website. We are in more than 50 markets! Visit our website at WorshipAnew.org/by-type/watch/watch-on-tv to learn more.

A note from the Editor ...

In our letters to the editor section, we would like to answer any and all questions that you have about aging well and our ministry. Please send your questions to editor@worshipanew.org. Please know that we will try to answer as many questions as we can. Thank you and enjoy!



What does it mean to 'solo age'?

By Gina Teeple

Director of Development & Ministry Relations

ADULTS AGED 50 OR OLDER ARE MORE LIKELY THAN EARLIER GENERATIONS TO BE DIVORCED, SEPARATED, OR NEVER MARRIED. ADDITIONALLY, 1 IN 6 ADULTS AGED 55 AND OLDER DO NOT HAVE CHILDREN.

Sarah doesn't mind living alone most of the time. Her husband passed away a few years ago, and she still misses him dearly. She also wishes her adult children lived closer, but she enjoys her independence and values her solitude. However, there are moments when the weight of aging alone feels heavier than usual.

As the population ages, an increasing number of adults find themselves growing older without a partner or immediate family by their side. According to a recent article in *The New York Times*, the number of single occupant households has drastically increased in America. In fact, 36 percent of households headed by someone 50 or older have a single occupant. That means nearly 26 million Americans 50 or older are living alone, or "solo aging."

For some, aging alone is a conscious choice, driven by a desire for independence or a reluctance to compromise personal freedom. Others may find themselves in this situation due to factors like the loss of a spouse, estrangement from family, or geographic isolation.

If you are a solo ager, it is important to remember that living alone doesn't mean you are alone. **You are part of a bigger family in Christ.** Paul tells us in his letter to the Galatians that "in Christ Jesus (we) are all sons of God, through faith" (3:26 ESV). In fact, Jesus reminds us throughout the Gospels that family isn't limited to biology. In Matthew 12:46-50 (ESV) we read:



“While Jesus was still talking to the crowd, his mother and brothers stood outside, wanting to speak to him. Someone told him, ‘Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to speak to you.’

“He replied to him, ‘Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?’ Pointing to his disciples, he said, ‘Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.’”

If the previous passage seems a bit disregarding or disrespectful to you, don’t worry. Jesus takes care of his mother. As he is dying on the cross, he makes sure she will be cared for after his death. In John 19:25-27 (ESV), we read:

“Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, ‘Woman, here is your son,’ and to the disciple, ‘Here is your mother.’ From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.”

This is a beautiful example of how we, as Christians, are called to love and provide for one another — especially when someone does not have a biological family to care for them.

This love has deeply impacted Sarah. She finds solace in her faith and actively participates in her local church community. Through weekly worship services, Bible study groups, and volunteer opportunities, Sarah has forged meaningful connections with brothers and sisters in Christ who provide her with companionship and support. You can do the same!

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God.
John 1:12-13 (ESV)

Are you a solo ager? These resources will help!

Eldercare Locator

Eldercare Locator will connect you to local resources related to health, support services, housing, insurance and benefits, transportation, and elder rights. It is a free public service of the U.S. Administration on Aging.

You can connect with trained information and referral specialists who will provide you with personalized assistance based on your specific needs and location by:

- ▶ Dialing the toll-free number (800-677-1116);
- ▶ Emailing eldercarelocator@n4a.org; or
- ▶ Using the online chat feature at <https://eldercare.acl.gov>

Programs for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)

Programs for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly are comprehensive healthcare programs designed to meet the needs of older adults who require nursing home-level care but prefer, and are motivated to, live in their own homes or communities. PACE programs focus on preventive care and managing chronic conditions. These programs are designed to improve health outcomes and reduce the need for hospitalizations or institutional care.

PACE programs are typically funded through Medicare and Medicaid, making them accessible to people with limited financial resources.

HealthFinder

This online resource is provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and offers articles, videos, and interactive tools to help older adults make informed decisions about their health.

The MyHealthFinder tool is a great resource that provides guidelines on screenings, immunizations, and preventive care specifically recommended for older adults. HealthFinder also offers other online tools, such as health quizzes and interactive checklists. These will help you assess your health status, identify potential risk factors, and make informed decisions about your health care needs.

National Directory for Home Modification and Repair

The National Directory for Home Modification and Repair provides a centralized database of home modification and repair services, which may include installing accessibility features, like ramps, grab bars, stairlifts, and bathroom modifications to accommodate mobility limitations. All of these things are essential to make your home more accessible, safe, and suitable for aging in place.



Distinctions & Similarities

By Rev. William E. Mueller

During the June 30 program on Worship Anew, the message weaves a story that is, I'll admit, shamelessly adapted from Max Lucado's book, "Six Hours One Friday." In this book, he dedicates an entire chapter ("The Sparkle from Eternity") to retelling the account of our text (Mark 5:21-43 ESV). He tells it as if it happened today, in our era. Instead of a synagogue ruler's daughter that is ill and dies, it's the daughter of a pastor. I first read this book when my now 22-year-old daughter was an infant. Perhaps, you can see why it gripped my attention. Here are some places in the text of Scripture for us to ponder:

"My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay Your hands on her so that she may be made well and live." (Mark 5:23) The Gospel writers don't give us the background information about the daughter's sickness or the inner wranglings that Jairus endured. Certainly, there was some level of angst going on within him. Whatever the details were, what we do know is that Jairus reached out to Jesus with the request to save his daughter's life. He considered whatever he would lose as far less important than his daughter's life and wellbeing.

"For she said, 'If I touch even his garments, I will be made well.'" (Mark 5:28) It appears this woman was far different than Jairus and

didn't think she had the social standing to directly request Jesus' help. She finds a way to sneak the healing in. While they were different from each other, this unnamed woman and Jairus have one thing in common: Jesus. They both hope He can stop death.

Next time you're sitting in a church pew take a good look around you. Don't look for what makes you different but look around at all the various people with whom you share Jesus Christ in common! Old and young, rich and poor, sophisticated and simple — all with Jesus in common.

"Why trouble the Teacher any further?" (Mark 5:35) Death has occurred, and there isn't anything more that can be done. Right? That's what the people were telling Jairus. Maybe Jairus was already thinking the same thing. But death doesn't stop Jesus. Never. Ever. Death stops dead in its tracks when it comes to Jesus (see Luke 7:14; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22; maybe all of 1 Corinthians 15!). Jesus is the answer to death. He is death's undoing. Why trouble the Teacher any further? My heavens! It was for this purpose that Jesus came! Praise God that Jesus doesn't stop and leave Jairus ... and that He doesn't leave us!

"Talitha koum!" (Mark 5:41) This is the transliteration of what our Lord Jesus would have said in Aramaic.

"Koum" is the command form of a very familiar Old Testament verb. Old Testament writers use it more than 1,000 times. It means more than to just "stand there like a house by the side of the road" (to quote an old baseball hero). It means to be alive, active, and engaged. This unnamed daughter of Jairus hears the Word of Jesus and rises!

"He strictly charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat." (Mark 5:43) Now was not the time for broad circulation about Jesus' power over death — there was still a cross for Him to endure ... and then to bring about His own resurrection. You do have to love the statement to give her something to eat. It speaks about the genuineness of this account. Jesus is thinking about every aspect of the needs Jairus' daughter has. She is alive. She is well. She is hungry. Feed her!

This isn't just a fancy story to prove Jesus' divine, cosmic powers. It is an illustration of love. It is an illustration of faith. It is a window through which we see Jesus' power to raise us from death. He has already raised us from the death of sin through our Baptism ... and, unless He returns first, He will also raise us from the dead, as well.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.



What would members of the synagogue say about Jairus reaching out to Jesus? Would they be pleased? Judgmental? Critical?

Where is it that we struggle? Where — and why — are we reluctant to take Jesus at His Word? Do we fear appearing to be weak that we ask Jesus for help? Do we think we're going to be too "showy" with our faith that we remain silent?

Where — and why — are we tempted to make distinctions between each other in the church? Do such distinctions serve any purpose for advancing the Gospel? Why/why not?

What are the moments when we think we shouldn't bother Jesus anymore? Might it be at those very moments that He is welcoming us to ask Him for more?

What is your reaction to Jesus raising of Jairus' daughter?

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we are so often surrounded by death. Give us renewed strength every morning as we wake to love You and those around us. Give us hope that we, like Jarius' daughter, will be raised to new life on the last day. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Rev. Mueller is the pastor of Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne, Ind., and a regular pastor on Worship Anew.

This month's study text:

Jesus Heals a Woman and Jairus' Daughter

21 And when Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about him, and he was beside the sea. 22 Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing him, he fell at his feet 23 and implored him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live." 24 And he went with him.

And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him. 25 And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, 26 and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. 27 She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. 28 For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I will be made well." 29 And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. 30 And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?" 31 And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, 'Who touched me?'" 32 And he looked around to see who had done it. 33 But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. 34 And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

35 While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler's house some who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?" 36 But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." 37 And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. 38 They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. 39 And when he had entered, he said to them, "Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping." 40 And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. 41 Taking her by the hand he said to her, "Talitha cumi," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." 42 And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. 43 And he strictly charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

Mark 5:21-43 (ESV)



Just Desserts

Lemon Cake

1 Pkg Lemon Cake Mix
4 Eggs
3/4 Cup of Oil
1 Pkg of 3 oz Lemon Jello
1 Cup of Hot Water

2 Cups of Powdered Sugar
1/4 Cup Lemon Juice

Mix lemon Jello and hot water. Cool and add to cake mix with eggs and oil. Beat well. Bake 15 minutes at 350 degrees. Reduce heat to 325 degrees and bake additional 30 minutes. Poke holes in the cake with a fork. Frost with the glaze made of powdered sugar and lemon juice.

Submitted by Volunteer Debra Leighty





BIBLICAL FAMILY FILL-IN

GENESIS 50:15-21 (ESV)

God's Good Purposes

1. When Joseph's _____ saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." (v. 15)
2. So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your _____ gave this command before he died: (v. 16)
3. 'Say to Joseph, "Please _____ the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.'" (v. 17a)
4. And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph _____ when they spoke to him. (v. 17b)
5. His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your _____." (v. 18)
6. But Joseph said to them, "Do not _____, for am I in the place of God? (v. 19)
7. As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for _____, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. (v. 20)
8. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your _____. Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them. (v. 21)

Answer Key:

8. little ones
7. good
6. fear
5. servants

4. wept
3. forgive
2. father
1. brothers

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Happy Father's Day

“Son, you are always with me,
and all that is mine is yours.”

Luke 15:31 ESV