



WORSHIP ANEW  
PROGRAM SCHEDULE

MOMENTS OF COMFORT

A SNEAK PEEK  
INTO HOPE-FULL LIVING

GOD AT WORK

[WORSHIPANEW.ORG](http://WORSHIPANEW.ORG)

# God Given Gifts

*To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*

## 1 Corinthians 12:7

What is a skill you wish you possessed? For instance, I have a sarcastic sense of humor so having the ability to wink would certainly come in handy. Instead, people must carry on not knowing if I'm serious or just joking. My dad was able to use his fingers to make a loud whistle that could be heard for what seemed like miles around. Being able to get people's attention in a noisy room or cheer on one of my children from the stands with a loud whistle would certainly be useful. My wife has a photographic memory when it comes to remembering names. That is perhaps the one ability I yearn for the most.

Our ministry team recently completed a strengths analysis to help us discover each staff member's unique talents. I like to refer to them as our "superpowers." It was a fascinating process to learn about the gifts and abilities God has given each team member. Through His providence, our Lord has intricately woven these unique gifts into each of us, which we can use to serve Him and one another.

What are your gifts? I love the passage in 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 where Saint Paul points out, "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." Just as we are baptized into one body, God has made us individual members working together in and for the body of Christ.



I'm so grateful to the many who use their gifts to further the mission of Worship Anew. As we strive to serve you using our gifts, Worship Anew is dependent on you and your gifts. We are bonded by God's love. It takes thousands of individuals to sustain the work of this ministry. Your prayers and financial support are vital as we engage and equip aging adults with resources to live a full and abundant life in Jesus Christ.

Recently, I thought it would be neat to learn how to do a loud whistle. After weeks of practice, the only thing I've accomplished is annoying my children. Thanks be to God that He has given us special gifts and talents to use in sharing His love. May you always be encouraged that the Holy Spirit is working in you as we join in serving God and His kingdom.



**Matthew F. Leighty**  
Executive Director

# God at Work

by Gene Edward Veith

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God healed me.

I wasn't feeling well, so I went to the doctor. The nurse ran some tests; the lab technicians identified the problem; the doctor wrote me a prescription; I had it filled by the pharmacist. In no time, I was a lot better. It was God who healed me, and He did it through the medical vocations.

God gave me my daily bread.

He did it through the farmer who grew the grain, the truck driver who hauled it, the bakers at the factory, the stockers at the grocery store, and the lady at the check-out counter. It was God who fed me—just as I prayed in the Lord's Prayer—and He did it through the vocations of ordinary people just doing their jobs.

God talked to me.

The pastor read God's Word. In the sermon, he drew out of the Bible God's Law, which cut me to the quick. Then he proclaimed the Gospel of how Christ has done everything for my salvation. When I confessed my sins, God, through His Word as delivered by the pastor, told me I was forgiven.

This is the doctrine of vocation. The term literally means "calling."

According to Luther, every Christian is called to particular offices and tasks, through which God Himself works to govern and care for His created order.

God teaches through teachers; He protects us through the vocations of police officers, firefighters, soldiers, and government officials; He brings beauty through artists; He proclaims His Word and administers His Sacraments through pastors.

God could have created each new batch of children from the dust, as He did Adam, said Luther. But instead, He chose to create new life by means of mothers and fathers. It is still God who creates and cares for little babies, but He does so through the vocation of parenthood. When parents bring their children to Baptism, provide for their needs, discipline them, bring them up in His Word, and raise them to adulthood, God is at work every step of the way.

## Lutheran Distinctives

Medieval Catholicism taught that only priests, nuns, and those in other church-work professions have a vocation, a calling from God. The Reformation taught that all Christians have callings from God, including those who work in the so-called secular sphere.





Reformed Christians also believe in the doctrine of vocation, but their emphasis tends to be on “Law”: what the Christian should do as a distinctly Christian parent, businessperson, artist, or tradesman.

The Lutheran emphasis is characteristically on “Gospel”: what God does through our human callings.

Lutherans emphasize how God works through means: In His spiritual kingdom, He works through the Word and Sacraments as means of grace. In His earthly kingdom, He works through the natural order and through human vocations.

Just as we receive God’s manifold blessings through other people, God works through us to bless others. Though our relationship to God is based totally on His grace, to which we can add nothing of our own, our relationship to our neighbors does call for good works. The doctrine of vocation has to do with our duties to love and serve our neighbors.

Of course, in a fallen world, we also sin in our vocations. We do not use our vocations to the fullest to serve our neighbors, as God intends. We misuse our gifts, act outside our callings, and struggle to carry out our responsibilities. In Luther’s terms, we bear our cross in our vocations. The doctrine of vocation amounts to a comprehensive theology of the Christian life.

## **Vocation and the Catechism**

Luther identified four types of callings that every Christian has:

- As a member of the church
- As a member of a family
- As someone who works
- As a citizen of a community

The Small Catechism includes a “Table of Duties,” which consists of scriptural direction for the various vocations. (Technically, only a Christian—who has been “called” by the Gospel—has a “vocation.”

Luther uses other terms—“office,” “estates,” “stations”—for positions held by non-Christians, through whom God also can work.)

As one reads the “Table of Duties,” it is evident that one person can hold a number of different vocations at once. A man might be both a husband and a father, a master (to his employees) and a servant (to his boss). He is subject to the governing authorities and, possibly, a leader in his church. In each case, God’s Word gives direction for how we should live out our callings.

The Small Catechism also addresses vocation in the section on “The Office of the Keys,” in the questions dealing with what sins we should confess. We are told to “Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker?” The Second Table of the Commandments—from “Honor your father and your mother” to the injunctions to respect your neighbor’s property and relationships—all have to do with vocation.

With the doctrine of vocation, everyday life is transfigured. We realize that the way to serve God is not by some extraordinary act of mystical devotion, but by serving our neighbors in the daily circumstances of life—in our families, our jobs, our church, and our involvement in the community.

With the doctrine of vocation, ordinary relationships, the 9-to-5 routine, taking care of the kids, the work-a-day world—the way we spend most hours of the day—become charged with the presence of God.

*Dr. Gene Edward Veith served as Professor of English and Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences at Concordia University Wisconsin. Dr. Veith has written over 20 books on different facets of Christianity & Culture.*

# Worship Anew in October

Year 2022 | Series C



**October 2, 2022 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Psalm 62; Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Luke 17:1-10**

**“Live by Faith” - Sermon Text: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 - Rev. William Mueller**

In a world, culture, and society that is going haywire in an exponential fashion, the cry of Habakkuk is very relevant: “How long, O Lord, must I call for help, but you do not listen?” The Lord answers in a very unique way, with an even more unique message. We live by faith!



**October 9, 2022 – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Psalm 111; 2 Timothy 2:8-13; Luke 17:11-19**

**“Going GOD’S Way?” - Sermon Text: Luke 17:19 - Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer**

God cares for all, yet all do not acknowledge that it is GOD’S care. Such is the case with Jesus’ healing of the 10 lepers. We learn from this miracle that there is healing; and then, there is HEALING. Are you GOING GOD’S WAY?



**October 16, 2022 – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Psalm 121; Genesis 32:22-30; Luke 18:1-8**

**“God: My Adversary?” - Sermon Text: Genesis 32:22-30 - Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III**

God, in human form, wrestled with Jacob. He seemed to be Jacob’s adversary or opponent. At times God may seem to be our adversary – for example, when we receive bad news or are going through difficulties. But was God really Jacob’s, and is he really our, opponent?



**October 23, 2022 – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Psalm 5; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-17**

**“Let Them Come” - Sermon Text: Luke 18:15-17 - Rev. Thomas Eggold**

Despite what our culture may teach, sin remains a reality in the world. Every single person has been born into a broken relationship with God, separated by nature, and in dire need of forgiveness. And to this desperate need Jesus said, “Let them come!”



**October 30, 2022 – Reformation Sunday**

**Psalm 46; Revelation 14:6-7; John 8:31-36**

**“God Doesn’t Change” - Sermon Text: Revelation 14:6 - Rev. Dr. Lawrence R. Rast, Jr.**

Today we celebrate the beginning of the Lutheran Reformation, and we remember the founding of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Both events were all about the proclamation of the unchanging Gospel of Christ, which is the unshakable and immovable foundation of our faith. Both the Reformation and the LCMS emphasized the comforting reality that, while everything around is constantly changing, God doesn’t change.



# HOPE-FULL

## *A Look Inside* LIVING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2022

### Reform-Aging!

So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation ...

*Psalms 71:18*

As we celebrate the gift of the Reformation, perhaps some of us can still hear our catechism teacher remark, "Wow, Luther really nailed it!" We are saved through the death and resurrection of Christ! As we continue to live out the story of the Resurrection, we thank the Lord for all the other "Luthers" in our lives through the years! Luther was 33 years old when he launched the Reformation and 62 years old when he died. With 10,000 people turning 65 in the U.S. each day, today is a crucial time of reforming our attitudes and perceptions, both of aging and how we are sharing our faith. How are we modeling the gift of aging with the younger around us? Let's begin a "Reform-Aging movement" modeled after the sainted Luther! The Word of the Lord endures forever — to every generation. This is most certainly true!

*Rich Bimler  
Bloomington, IL*

**Lord,** continue to bless us so that we can continue to teach and celebrate the reformation gift to the young and old. Amen!

**Reflect:** Talk with some younger people this week, just to say, "Hi" and to bless them!

**Read:** 1 Timothy 5 and 1 Corinthians 9:23

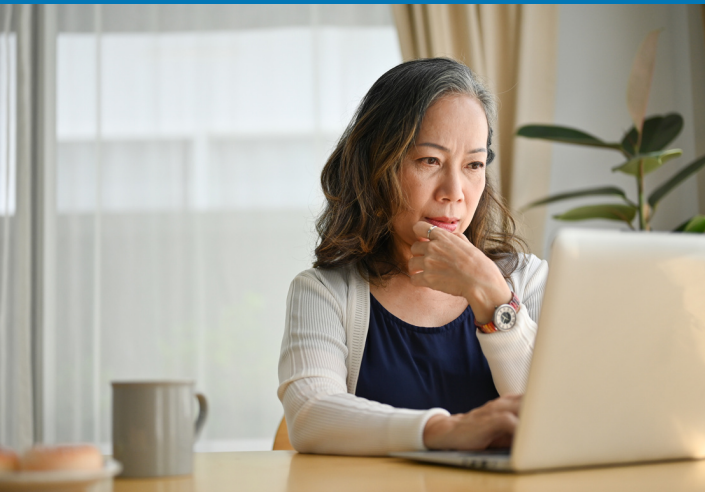


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# Gifts of Stock



*Karen purchased stock for many years. Over time the value of her stock grew and became a substantial investment.*

Today Karen has more stock than she will ever need. Yet, she hesitates to sell it because she knows any sale will trigger an immediate capital gains tax. What can she do?

One of the best things Karen can do is transfer some of her stock to an organization she cares about. By transferring rather than selling her stock, she avoids capital gains tax. Her gift will continue to benefit others for years to come. Karen also receives an income tax deduction for the full amount of the stock transferred.

Ask us about how your stock can be used to support the ministry of Worship Anew. You can use it to fund a charitable gift annuity, charitable remainder trust or charitable lead trust. These plans pay you income and provide additional tax benefits.

The names and images shown here are representative of typical donors and may or may not be actual donors to Worship Anew. Under federal rules your benefits may be different from this example. Please contact us for your specific benefits.

Rather than sell your stock, consider giving some of it to Worship Anew. You won't pay any taxes, and you receive an income tax deduction for your gift.

## BENEFITS OF GIVING STOCK

*Here are some of the benefits you can experience by making a gift of stock this year:*

- Avoid capital gains taxes up to 23.8%.
- Receive an income tax deduction for the full amount of your gift.
- Make a meaningful gift with no cash out-of-pocket.
- Capture the value of your stock and end the worrying about market ups and downs.
- Put your gift to work right away for the causes you care about most.

## BENEFITS OF GIVING vs SELLING

### GIVING

No capital gains tax

Income tax deduction

Avoid future investment costs

### SELLING

Taxes up to 23.8%

No income tax savings

Continue to pay investment costs

CALL OR EMAIL US IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT MAKING YOUR GIFT TO WORSHIP ANEW: [GINA@WORSHIPANEW.ORG](mailto:GINA@WORSHIPANEW.ORG) • 888-286-8002

This information is not intended as tax, legal or financial advice. Gift results may vary. Consult your personal financial advisor for information specific to your situation.

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# Moments of Comfort

*I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.*

**Ezekiel 36:26**

I like to fix things. Whether it's an amp, car, guitar, or a relationship, if it has any potential to be repaired, I will try to get it back to working order.

Because of this, it hurts me when there is something I possess that is beyond repair. I have a van that I replaced part after part on until I came to the conclusion that I could not (and it would not be worth it to) fix. The van needs a whole new engine. The cost to repair the van would be well over what the van is currently worth.

You and I were broken beyond repair. I should say that differently: we were broken beyond our ability to fix ourselves.

We were born in need of repair. Not only that, we needed a complete overhaul, new heart and all.

Thanks be to God that He did not leave us broken. God did not consider us beyond repair, or not worth the cost of fixing. Our God made us completely new by the power of the Holy Spirit, connecting us to the ultimate fix of Jesus defeating sin, death, and the devil with His dying on the cross and rising from the dead.

Moments of Comfort is a weekly video devotional of Worship Anew which ministers to the hurting and suffering we face in this life with the comforting message of God's Word. Find all of our videos at [www.WorshipAnew.org/MOC](http://www.WorshipAnew.org/MOC).

Our prayer is that these weekly videos may remind you of who you are in Christ. You are made new, you are a new creation with a new heart. May you live today with God's grace and peace.

*Thomas Moll*  
*Content Manager*



**Our mission is to engage and equip aging adults with resources to live a full and abundant life in Jesus Christ.**

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5 Martin Luther Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Phone (260) 471-5683 | Call Toll-Free (888) 286-8002

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