

WORSHIP ANEW PROGRAM SCHEDULE

A LABOR OF DEVOTION

A GIFT OF CARE
THROUGH OUR MINISTRY

HOW WORK WORKS



PURPOSE Commitment

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. Colossians 3:23-24

As my wife and I shared a rare moment alone together, waiting for my son's football practice to end, we found ourselves pondering a choice we would need to make as parents. Specifically, we discussed what we would tell our 11-year-old daughter, who had to decide between playing the flute and taking an elective at school. This simple moment of contemplation led us to reflect on the timeless wisdom of Colossians 3:23-24 and its relevance, not only to our daughter's decision, but also to the choices we make as we grow older in our journey of serving the Lord.

This passage in Colossians encourages us to help our daughter make her decision with a sense of purpose and commitment. Just as the Apostle Paul urges believers to work with all their hearts as if working for the Lord, we need to guide her to follow her passion and interests. Whether it's pursuing music through the flute or engaging in an elective, in the end, we know that each choice can be an avenue to serve the Lord and others wholeheartedly.

Have you found yourself faced with choices related to your own pursuits? In our work at Worship Anew, our ministry team is first and foremost Christ-centered in all that we do. I feel extremely blessed to serve alongside such faithful individuals, who are leading us to help others to live an abundant life in Christ. Paul's words guide us to approach vocation or volunteer opportunities with dedication and diligence knowing that it is for the Lord.

Certain tasks might seem like "basket weaving" — a phrase often used humorously to describe seemingly easy or frivolous pursuits. Even so, we know that each task has its value and can contribute to the betterment of God's kingdom. Thus, we are encouraged to embrace the joy and purpose in every endeavor, knowing that our commitment and service can bring glory to God no matter what phase of life we find ourselves.

As Labor Day arrives, it's worth pausing to reflect on the work that we do. It is my prayer that Colossians 3:23-24 serves as a guiding light in your life. Today you have the choice to continue serving the Lord, finding purpose and fulfillment in your work and volunteer activities.

By anchoring our choices in faith and viewing each opportunity as a chance to serve the Lord, we bring honor to our God.



Matthew F. Leighty
Executive Director

Worship Anew in September

Year 2023 | Series A



September 3, 2023 – Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost Psalm 26; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28 "Genuine Love" – Sermon Text: Romans 12:9-21 Rev. William Mueller

God's Word teaches us to love our neighbors as ourselves. Is our love "The real McCoy"? How is our love impacted by the real Jesus? No fakes or forgeries will suffice!



September 10, 2023 – Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost Psalm 32:1-7; Romans 13:8-10; Matthew 18:15-20 "Courageous Conversations" – Sermon Text: Matthew 18:15-20 Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer

God moved heaven and earth, sending His Son Jesus Christ to die and rise to life, because of His great love for us. He calls you and me to exercise such extravagant and urgent love in the lives of others. He calls us to Courageous Conversations with those He places among us.



September 17, 2023 – Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost Psalm 103:1-12; Genesis 50:15-21; Matthew 18:21-35 "Forgiveness Benefits" – Sermon Text: Genesis 50:15-21 Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

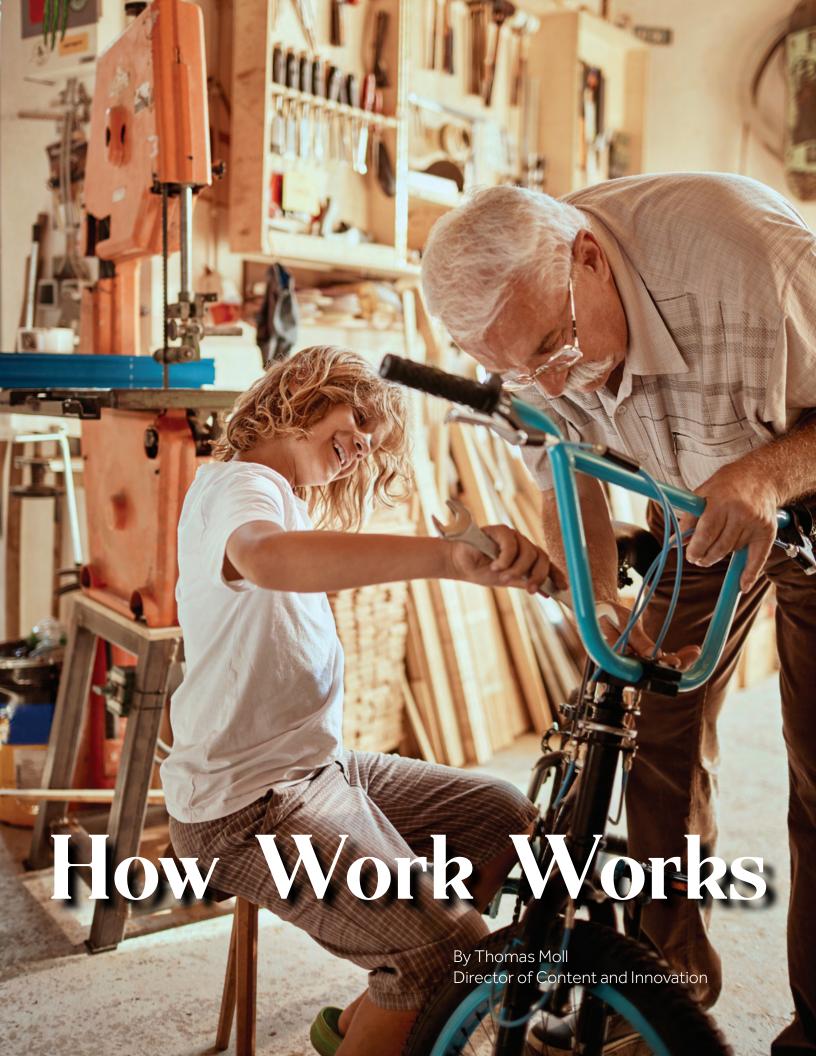
When wronged, we are tempted to get revenge. But Jesus teaches us to forgive those who have trespassed against us. There are, in fact, great benefits associated with forgiving others.



September 24, 2023 – Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost Psalm 27:1-9; Isaiah 55:6-9; Matthew 20:1-16 "Unreasonable Generosity" – Sermon Text: Matthew 20:1-16 Rev. Thomas Eggold

The generosity of God goes against everything we innately hold dear. It is not fair. It makes no sense. And yet, because of this unreasonable generosity given to us through Jesus, we are saved!





've always liked to know how things work. When I was a child, under my bed was a graveyard of toys and electronic devices that I had taken apart to figure out how they operate. My parents would have appreciated it if I would have also had a passion for putting things back together. As we grow, we live and learn how the world around us works.

But, how does God work? In the Lord's Prayer, we ask for God to give us this day our daily bread. We ask this in confidence, knowing that God provides. But, how? How does God accomplish His work?

God uses people.

Here is how Gene Veith puts it in his wonderful book, "Working for Our Neighbor: A Lutheran Primer on Vocation, Economics, and Ordinary Life."

"God's normal way of working in the world is through means. He does not have to use means, and he is capable of working immediately. He can heal with a miracle, just as he once provided the children of Israel their daily bread — the manna of the wilderness — without farmers and bakers. But God's normal way of operating is through human beings. This is because he desires us to serve one another."

When you pray that God might care for your child going to college for her first semester, you can imagine how God may work through good Christian friends, caring professors, or a conscientious adviser. Another way to think about God's work is that He not only works through people; He works through you!

God cares for his children through you as a parent as you care for your child's unique needs with love and consideration.
God cares for those in your neighborhood as you water your neighbors garden when they go out of town or when you check on those who live next to you in your independent living facility.

We do all of this knowing that God did the hardest job for us. As we serve those around us, we can remember that Jesus, "emptied himself, by taking on the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men." Philippians 2:7

Jesus died on the cross for you and your neighbor. Jesus rose that you and your neighbor may have life everlasting. May you work heartily each day knowing that God is working in and through you to accomplish His purposes!

Introduction to Vocation

Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him.

~ 1 Corinthians 7:17

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

~ Ephesians 2:10

In Lutheran theology, there is a concept called vocation. Vocation is more than work. God has prepared good works for you, and He calls you to serve others and to share the love of Christ in all your vocations.

Simultaneously you can be a parent, grandparent, spouse, citizen, and neighbor.

In each of these roles, or vocations, God has placed you where you can serve.

If you're struggling with finding how you can serve, look around and see what's in front of you, who lives near you, what you hear on the news. Your prayers and Christian service, and conscientiousness in your work are ways you can do God's work in your life.

What vocations has God called you to?

What work has God put in front of you to do today?

SUMMER HOLIDAY WORD SEARCH

Find the words listed below and circle them.

G	В	х	F	L	ı	Р	F	L	0	Р	S
Υ	E	Q	s	ı	С	E	С	R	E	A	М
w	A	Т	E	R	М	E	L	0	N	w	0
Р	C	U	A	ı	G	0	G	G	L	E	S
0	н	s	U	N	G	L	A	s	s	E	s
0	R	s	U	N	s	С	R	E	E	N	E
L	s	A	N	D	С	A	s	т	L	E	A
J	т	L	В	E	A	С	н	В	A	L	L
S	w	I	М	S	U	I	т	К	U	A	М

- ICE CREAM
- BEACH
- BEACH BALL
- SUNSCREEN
- WATERMELON
- SANDCASTLE
- SEA
- FLIPFLOPS

- SUNGLASSES
- SWIMSUIT
- POOL
- GOGGLES

THOPE-FULL A Look Inside LIVING



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

Fruitful Labor

... always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:58

As I look back on my life, I wonder, was it a life well lived? Did the choices I made amount to anything in the long run? Did I make a difference? I find comfort in the above passage from 1 Corinthians. I am not taking credit for them, but I know that the life of the Christian includes many opportunities to honor God with acts of kindness and willing service to others, my life included.

If you are like me, you too, can take comfort in the assurance that those times we abounded in the work of the Lord by being a part of the body of Christ; we were making a difference. Our labor was not in vain; our lives had purpose, through Christ.

Katherine Klemp Saint Paul, MN

Dear Father, thank you that our works of love for you are not in vain. Amen.

Reflect: Recall times of joyful service in the

Read: Colossians 1:3-14 and Matthew 15:1-11

Share Hope-Full Living with someone you love **HopefullLiving.org** or call **1-888-286-8002**



SENDPARE.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you John 15:12 ESV

Send a Care Package

Anyone who wants to share the love of Christ with an aging person can send a care package at no cost!



You personalize your package.

Visit our website at www.worshipanew.org to select items for your care package.



We create and ship your package.

Volunteers lovingly and prayerfully assemble each care package. Orders received before the end of the business day on Wednesday are shipped on Friday of the same week.

What is Included:

Each package contains:

- A Comfort item (blanket or slippers)
- A coffee mug and a beverage (coffee, tea, hot chocolate, or seasonal beverage)
- · An activity (crossword puzzle, word search, sudoku, coloring book, or iournal)
- Spiritual resources
- Personalized items









66 I was so surprised when I received my care package! I loved everything in it. I am excited to send care packages to my loved ones!







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

Worship Anew is produced by Lutheran Ministries Media 5 Martin Luther Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46825 Phone (260) 471-5683 | Call Toll-Free (888) 286-8002

Learn more and view all programs at WorshipAnew.org







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