



SIMUL JUSTUS ET PECCATOR: EMBRACING OUR DUAL NATURE

by Vicar Brett Arrasmith

In the heart of every believer lies a tension—a tension between the reality of our righteousness in Christ and a persistent struggle with sin. This tension is beautifully encapsulated in the Latin phrase "Simul Justus et Peccator," which translates to "at the same time righteous and sinner," or "at the same time saint and sinner." As Christians, we live in this paradoxical state, navigating the tension between our new identity as a "Saint" in Christ and our ongoing struggle with the brokenness of our human nature, "Sinner."

The apostle Paul talks to us about this tension in his letter to the Romans. In Romans 7:15-25, he shares his inner turmoil, acknowledging the presence of sin within him despite his desire to do what is right. Paul says, "For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate" (Romans 7:15). We can find ourselves resonating with Paul's words because we too experience this same conflict. We strive to live according to God's will, but find ourselves falling short time and time again. We long for righteousness, yet we struggle with our sinful desires. In our weakness, we may feel discouraged, and wonder how anyone could look at us and call us saints.

saint

sinner

But in this struggle, we find hope in the gospel—the good news of Jesus Christ. In Christ we are justified and sanctified. Through His sacrificial death and resurrection, Jesus has made us righteous and we are rightly called Saints in the eyes of God. When God looks at us, He sees the righteousness of His Son imputed to us.

IN THIS ISSUE

Children & Family Ministry	Page 2
Easter Photos	Page 3
Trivia Night	Page 4
Bud & Gail Schultz	Page 4
Mission & Outreach	Page 5
Life Corner	Page 6
Elder's Message	Page 7
Music Ministry	Page 7
Easter Luncheon	Page 8
Mary-Martha Guild	Page 8
Calendars	Pages 9-11

Jesus, however, gives us a helper; gives us the Holy Spirit who lives inside of us (John 14:16). The Spirit sanctifies us which is a journey of both progress and setbacks. Martin Luther puts it well when he says, "A life of a Christian is a life of repentance." While we may stumble and fall along the way, we can take comfort in the fact that God's grace is sufficient for us. Simul Justus et Peccator reminds us of our constant need for God's grace and mercy. It keeps us humble and reliant on God rather than on ourselves. Despite our flaws and failures, God continues to extend His grace to us.

So let us embrace our dual nature with humility and gratitude, trusting in a faithful and loving God, as we continually strive for righteousness while resting in the assurance of our salvation in Christ. And may the tension of Simul Justus et Peccator drive us to seek God earnestly, relying on His strength to sustain us each step of the way. †††



WINTER HAPPENINGS & VBS

by Mary Laesch

God is at work in and among His people at Chapel of the Cross! It is a joy to see adults, youth, and children teaching, learning, serving, and worshiping together as they share the love of Jesus with one another.

In December, the children and youth presented the Christmas Program, "Peace Came to Earth." Through Scripture readings, recitations, songs, and music, they shared the Good News of God's love for us in Jesus. Peace with God was lost through Adam and Eve's sin in the garden of Eden. But God did not give up on the people He had made! God promised a Savior who would restore peace with God through His death on the cross for our sins and His resurrection. Jesus is that Savior, our Prince of Peace. Thank you to all the parents and other adults who helped! Thank you also to Ryan Meyer and Jen Schmidt for helping the kids sing and ring beautifully!

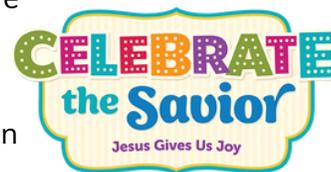


How can we celebrate the 12 days of Christmas (and where did that song come from)? What's an "Epiphany?" Why do we get ashes on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday? Kids, youth, and adults came together to explore the answers to these and many other questions in the Seasons of the Church Year events for Christmas, Epiphany, and Lent. These intergenerational events encourage the whole family of Chapel to come together to learn more about the seasons and festivals of the Christian Church Year and how they guide us through the life of Jesus and the life of the church. Snacks, activities, and crafts are included! Join us for the next Church Year event on Sunday, April 7, when we will learn about the joy-filled season of Easter!



How Egg-citing! Chapel of the Cross hosted an Easter Egg Hunt for children of the congregation and the community on Saturday, March 30. Children and their families made crafts, played games, and hunted for candy-filled eggs! Thank you to all who donated candy and volunteered their time for this event! See the next page for some photos from Easter at Chapel of the Cross.

Get ready to party at Vacation Bible School this summer! The theme for this year's VBS is Celebrate the Savior: Jesus Gives Us Joy. VBS will be held at Chapel of the Cross on four evenings: Sunday, June 30—Wednesday, July 3 from 5:30–8:00 p.m. We are excited to be partnering once again with Grace Chapel and Blessed Savior Lutheran churches. VBS provides a wonderful opportunity to share the good news of Jesus' love with the kids and families in our community. Many hands are needed to make VBS a success, and we would love for you to get involved! There are many ways to help, from donating items to making snacks to leading children during VBS, and more. Contact Mary Laesch for more information and/or look for the VBS sign-up sheets coming soon to the Commons area. †††





Kirk Mueller

YOUR LIFETIME PLAN FOR GIVING

Have you left a lasting legacy of your faith?

Have you blessed your family in the best way?

Have you remembered your favorite ministries?

As you can answer “yes” to each of these questions, I know you will experience the peace and joy of knowing God has blessed you to be a blessing.

To find out more, contact:

Kirk Mueller—LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor

11645 Benham Road, St. Louis, MO 63136

314.704.4389

Kirk.mueller@lcms.org



2024 SILENT AUCTION & TRIVIA NIGHT

by Bill Rusnak

Our 2024 Silent Auction and Trivia Night was Saturday, March 2. Supporting Chapel Youth was a great success! Teams and individual participants were welcome at the door and trivia started at 6:30 p.m. Thirteen tables of 8 or less enjoyed 8 rounds of ten questions. Special thanks to everyone on the team who made this event possible!

- Trivia Master of Ceremonies: Jerry Bowen
- Trivia judges and registrars: Tim Taylor, Keith Otto, and Marilyn Kreitner
- Attendance prize gatherer and coordinator, Venmo source, concessions favors provider, Powerpoint creator and trivia questions authenticator: Jennifer Krupp
- Head silent auction organizer: Sandy Otto
- Host and special assistant coordinator: Ken Kreitner
- Concessions team: Bill and Lois Westbrook and Jon Rogers
- Auction items gatherers and donations sources: Pam Mains, Diane Timm, John Zvirgzdins, Jayme and Jay Zvirgzdins, Pastor Ellory and Kathy Glenn, Jen Schmidt, Amy Meister, Ken Gerler, Julie Griffith, Cathy Crosier, Roberta Loesch, Joe Miano, Doris Truetken, Sandy Otto, Ellen Kehe, and several who remain anonymous.

All totaled, just over \$3,300 was raised to help our Youth under the direction of Vicar Brett Arrasmith. To God be all glory! 🙏🙏🙏



BUD AND GAIL SCHULTZ

by Mark Ellebracht from Advantage News

Bud and Gail Schultz have been making music together for nearly 68 years and recently stopped by the Big Z Media studios to talk about the New Horizons Band and past musical adventures.

Bud, you've been playing music in the Alton area for a long time, how did you finally get to join the New Horizons Band?

Bud: I was told that I was finally old enough and they let me in. It used to be you had to be at least 50 years old to join, but they've now allowed some younger players to join up.

Gail: I will say it is one of the most fulfilling groups, musically, that I have known and really enjoy it.

Gail, do you play any musical instruments?

Bud: She sings!

Gail: When we had our (music) store in town, I did have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument but never followed up on it.

Bud, you got your start in this area by helping to form the Alton High Marching 100?

Yes, we moved to town in 1963, which of course was a significant year with the death of President Kennedy. But during our time there we got to mark a few other important dates like the sesquicentennial of Illinois, the 50th anniversary of the Alton High band department, and then the bicentennial of the United States and the Marching 100 got to lead the Illinois section in Philadelphia on the 4th of July.

And I guess that helped get you connected with other groups and then you started up the You Can't Beat Experience Jazz Band?

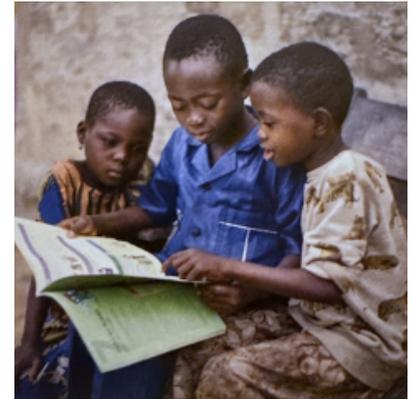
Yes, I've been in many other dance bands and orchestras over the years, including the Alton Symphony Orchestra, and I still play some around the area. In fact, we do play from time to time at Cedarhurst, not just around the holidays.

Hear the full interview with Bud and Gail at AdvantageNews.com under the Podcast tab.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

by Mike and Ellen Kehe

Collection of items for shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child continues. Each month we focus on different items that can be packed in a shoebox for a gift for children all over the world. Here are some stories of the impact these gifts can have in spreading the Love of God. (From Operation Christmas child website at Samaritanspurse.org)



- A 13 year old in South Africa desperately needed new clothes. He was so excited to find an outfit just his size in his shoebox gift. Touched by God's provision, his mother accepted Jesus Christ as her Savior, and they are attending the church that hosted the Operation Christmas Child outreach event.
- In Namibia, Susie, age 8, had been playing soccer with bare feet until she received a shoebox gift that included shoes just the right size-and perfect for playing soccer. "God is so good," she said.
- A 7 year old refugee in South Asia had wanted a football and a spinning top toy for a long time but he knew his parents couldn't afford them. His family struggled to have enough money to buy food. He was thrilled to find both items in his shoebox. "What I saw in that box meant that God cares and answers prayers," he said.

March and April items are: Craft and activity items, such as: small puzzles, chalk, watercolors, play dough, stickers, jump rope, binoculars, compass, fishing kit, colorful rope or twine, sewing kit and fabric squares. New stuffed animals that will fit in a shoebox.

May and June items are: Personal care items, such as: water bottles, individual eating utensil set, comb, hairbrush, toothbrush, washcloth, nail clipper and file, fun adhesive bandages. And toys, such as: small ball, tennis ball, building blocks (Lego type), slinky, yo-yo, magnets, toy cars, small action figures, finger puppets, slinky, small Etch A Sketch.

It has been wonderful to see the response that this has brought. We look forward to our packing event this fall. Thank you for your participation in this mission! †††

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes." Romans 1:16



THE PRAYER CHAIN

by Alice Holtgrewe

St. Paul writes in First Thessalonians 5:17 pray without ceasing. Prayer is a vital part of a Christian's life. Praying may be done at any time because we know that our loving God hears and answers our prayers. The Prayer Chain is comprised of a group of ladies, from Chapel, who pray for those with special prayer requests. If you have a special prayer request or would like to join the Prayer Chain, please call Alice Holtgrewe at 314-741-3125. Prayer is the key in the morning and the bolt at night. Blessings. †††

LIFE TEAM ART FAIR

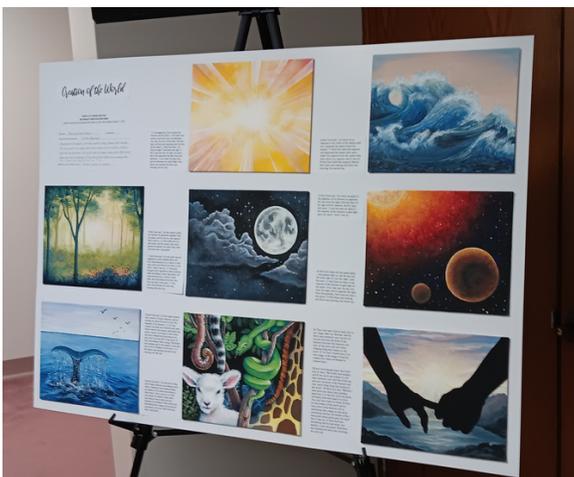
by Anne Meyer

In January, the Chapel Life Team hosted an Art Fair with the theme "Choose Life...for God is your life and length of days." (Deut. 30:19-20) We received over 25 submissions from members and friends of Chapel of the Cross of all different ages and representing a variety of life-themed topics from conception to growing old with dignity. It was a beautiful way to convey the meaning, value, and purpose each one of us has as children of the living God! Thank you to all who participated and viewed the art. Some pieces are still on display in the Life Library, so stop by and take a look! †††



"Therefore choose life...for He is your life and length of days."

Deuteronomy 30:19-20



CrossRoads

A publication of Chapel of the Cross
11645 Benham Road • St. Louis, MO 63136

SPRING 2024 VOLUME 16, NO. 2

Phone: 314-741-3737

Website: www.chapelofthecross.org

Email: office@chapelofthecross.org

Editor: Richard Gronemeyer

Associate Editors: Ken and Marilyn Kreitner

Design: Anne Meyer

CROSSROADS SUBMISSIONS:

Submissions to the Summer issue of the CrossRoads are due by Sunday, June 2. Please submit both a paper copy to the CrossRoads box as well as a digital copy if possible (e.g. PDF, pictures, etc.) emailed to Anne Meyer at news@chapelofthecross.org.

IN OUR DARKNESS SHINES YOUR GRACE

a poem by Elder Jonathan M. Bellmann

Savior of a fallen race in our darkness shines Your grace
Through the mire of sin and death we await Your heavenly breath

Shepherd of our troubled hearts, Comforter as life departs,
Cling we to each promise sure there to lean as faith endures.

Wake us then with purpose each day with Your light to show the way,
Shine the hope that comforts pain, restore our joy in the midst of rain.

Shield us from the tempter's might though our sight be dark as night
Place our confidence in You though in weakness we are made new.

Rescue us from apathy let this plea be plain to see
For the souls enslaved by sin never see the darkness within.

Chase away each doubt and fear let us to Your Word draw near
Safely in Your loving arms we are freed from all that harms.

In our stead for sins You bled for our souls Your life was shed
There to be a ransom paid for our eternal atonement was made.

Lift our hearts to You in prayer let us always find You there
Take away each spot and stain, walk with us upon the plain. †††



In Concert at
Chapel of the Cross!

**Sunday, April 28,
4:00 p.m.**

A free-will offering will be
collected

The Gateway Ringers is an auditioned community choir, comprised of handbell ringers from the St. Louis metropolitan area. Our mission is to inspire excellence in musicianship and heighten awareness of handbell music. The group was formed in the fall of 1995. The Gateway Ringers are members of the Handbell Musicians of America at the Area VIII and national levels. Gateway performs using six octaves of Malmark handbells & six octaves of Malmark Choirchimes®.

Buchholz Mortuaries, Inc.

• **FLORISSANT** •
619 St. Francois St.
Florissant, MO 63031
Phone: (314) 839-2020




Pre-Arranged Funeral Plans Available
The Buchholz Mortuaries family is dedicated to serving your family's needs now and in the future.



In Concert at Chapel of the Cross!

Tuesday, May 7, 7:00 p.m.

We are pleased to announce that on Tuesday, May 7, Chapel will be hosting the Kammerchor (choir) from Concordia University, Wisconsin, for a concert at 7:00 p.m. As we get closer to the date, we will be asking for volunteers to help prepare a pre-concert meal – stay tuned!

EASTER LUNCHEON

by Jayme Zvirgzdins

I am so grateful for the outpouring of help with this year's Seniors & Homebound Easter luncheon! These luncheons have become a joyous way to serve brothers and sisters in Christ at Chapel because of the cheerful and willing hearts that come together to serve. It is an absolute pleasure to serve along side everyone. Thank you! †††



MARY-MARTHA GUILD

Chapel members and guests are always welcome and invited to attend our meetings.

On Monday April 8, we will have a speaker from St. Louis First Responder Canteen. They go to scenes of fires etc. and make sure the first responders have food and drinks on hand.

Monday May 13, our guest speaker will be Christina Bennett, owner of Hendel's Restaurant. At this meeting we will also decide how to disperse our mission monies.

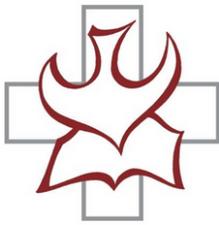
On Monday June 10 we will have our Installation Dinner here at church. It will be catered by Catering to You. †††



MORTUARY • CREMATION CENTER

Honoring Life. Celebrating Memories.

675 Graham Rd.
Florissant, MO 63031
Ph. 314.831.3100



2024 CONFIRMATION

This year's Confirmation is Sunday, May 5. The confirmands are Jordan Hill, Zoe Laesch, Jonah Meyer and Audrey Runser. †††

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Deaths:

- Janet Arban (Dec. 8, 2023)
- Clarence M. Bullington (Jan. 28, 2024)
- Donna Bullington (Jun. 8, 2016)
- Sharon Schulte (Dec. 3, 2023)

Transfer In:

- Yvonne Gurnee-Thormodson
- Antoinette Ray
- Shuanise Ray

Transfer Out:

- Carl and Cindy Palermo

Remove by Request:

- Bryan Smith

Former number of members:	881
Gains:	+3
Losses:	-7
New number of members:	877

April 2024

March '24							May '24						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	
31													

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Children's Handbells 6:30 p.m. Chapel Bells 7:30 p.m.	Life Team 6:00 p.m. Choral Singers 7:-00-8:30 p.m.		Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	Mary-Martha 6:30 p.m.		Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Children's Handbells 6:30 p.m. Chapel Bells 7:30 p.m.	Joyful Noise 6:15 p.m. Choral Singers 7:-00-8:30 p.m.		Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	Elders 7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study 10:00 a.m.	Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Children's Handbells 6:30 p.m. Chapel Bells 7:30 p.m.	Choral Singers 7:-00-8:30 p.m.		Worship Service 5:00 p.m. Youth Group 6:00 p.m.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	Board of Directors 7:00 p.m.		Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Children's Handbells 6:30 p.m. Chapel Bells 7:30 p.m.	Joyful Noise 6:15 p.m. Choral Singers 7:-00-8:30 p.m.		Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
28	29	30				
Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Gateway Ringers Concert 4:00 p.m.						
		Notes				

June 2024

May '24							July '24						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		28	29	30	31			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2 Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	3 Mary-Martha 6:30 p.m. Elders 7:00 p.m.	4	5 Holden Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.	6 Summer Choir 7:00 p.m.	7	8 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
9 Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	10 Mary-Martha 6:30 p.m. Elders 7:00 p.m.	11	12 Holden Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.	13 Summer Choir 7:00 p.m.	14	15 Worship Service 5:00 p.m. Youth Group 6:00 p.m.
16 Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	17	18	19 Holden Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.	20 Summer Choir 7:00 p.m.	21	22 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
23 Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	24 Board of Directors 7:00 p.m.	25	26	27 Summer Choir 7:00 p.m.	28	29 Worship Service 5:00 p.m.
30 Worship Services 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	Notes					



CHAPEL OF THE CROSS - LUTHERAN

CrossRoads

Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran
11645 Benham Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63136

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
PERMIT NO. 2656

Weekend Worship Services

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

**Education Hour
(Sunday School, Youth, & Adult Classes)**

Sunday: 9:45 a.m.

Holy Communion

1st, 3rd, & 5th Sunday of the month: 8:30 a.m.
2nd, 4th, & 5th Sunday of the month: 11:00 a.m.
1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturday of the month: 5:00 p.m.

*Chapel of the Cross - Lutheran
exists to show the love of Jesus to
the people of North County and
beyond so that all may have a
living relationship with Christ.*

