

LSC NEWS

NEWS FROM THE LUTHERAN STUDENT CENTER

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DOES YOUR LIFE SEEM LIKE A SHIPWRECK ABOUT TO HAPPEN?

Devotional Reflections by Dr. John Tape



St. Paul knew what it was like to be in a shipwreck. He writes, “three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea” (2 Co 11:25). Unlike St. Paul, I have never been in a shipwreck. But sometimes I am tossed about by the waves of fear and uncertainty. The stormy winds of adversity and troubles blow in my face at gale force and the rocky shoals of trials and temptation lie all around me. Perhaps you know that experience also.

Life can be stormy at Wichita State University (WSU). Students not only struggle with exams and term papers, but many also struggle with loneliness, depression, and the moral ambiguity of trying to determine right from wrong. For many, the future seems hopeless, and the present is chaotic and confused. They are looking for a way to safely navigate the stormy sea of their lives.

The disciples were familiar with stormy seas. Mark writes, “A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, ‘Teacher, don’t you care if we drown?’ ” (Mark 4:37-38). In the midst of the storm, the disciples turned to Jesus. Didn’t He care about them and their desperate situation? Of course, He cared. He showed His love for them (and His almighty power over all creation) by calming the wind and the waves (Mark 4:39).

This is why the Lutheran Student Center (LSC) is at WSU. We are here to show students that Jesus knows the storms they are going through, and He cares. He, who stilled the stormy sea of Galilea, will guide, encourage, and strengthen them in every trial and temptation. Only Jesus will give them the help they need. Jesus has helped me, and He has helped you through many stormy trials of life. We know from the Bible and our life experience what Jesus can do for us. With your help, we are privileged to share that Good News with every student at WSU. We pray along with Edward Hopper who wrote in 1871:

1. Jesus, Savior, pilot me, Over life’s tempestuous sea; Unknown waves before me roll, Hiding rock and treach’rous shoal; Chart and compass came from Thee: Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

2. As a mother stills her child, You can hush the ocean wild; Boist’rous waves obey Your will When You say to them, “Be still!” Wondrous Sov’reign of the sea, Jesus, Savior, pilot me.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING!

The LSC and Fairmount Coffee Co. have been blessed immensely by our Church community! We would like to take the opportunity to thank the individuals, congregations, and organizations who shared their blessings with us in 2017.

To those who have given their time through work days, maintenance projects, crafting projects, cleaning, lawn care, and many other hours of talents shared--*thank you!* To those who have shared their treasures--*thank you!* To those who continue to keep the LSC, Fairmount Coffee, our ministries, and the students and young adults in our community in your prayers--*thank you!*

Because of our generous community and your prayers, gifts, time, treasures, and talents, we continue to be able to share the love of Jesus with the WSU, Fairmount, and Greater Wichita Communities.

WE WERE BLESSED BY THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUAL DONORS FROM 2017:

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WE WERE BLESSED BY THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS IN 2017:

AIM Inc. · Amazon Smile · Ascension Lutheran Church LWML, Wichita · Camp Allegro · Christ Lutheran Church Tabitha Circle, Augusta · Immanuel Lutheran Church LWML, Wichita · Immanuel Lutheran Church LWML, Canton · Kansas District LWML · Kansas LCMS District · Peace Lutheran Church LWML, Andover · St. Paul's Lutheran School, Cheney · St. Paul's Lutheran Church Lutheran Youth Fellowship, Cheney · Thrivent Financial · Trinity Lutheran Ladies Guild, Wichita · Zion Lutheran Church LWML, Argonia ·

WE WERE BLESSED BY THE FOLLOWING CONGREGATIONS IN 2017:

Ascension Lutheran Church, Wichita · Christ Lutheran Church, Augusta · Faith Lutheran Church, Derby · Grace Lutheran Church, Wichita · Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Wichita · Immanuel Lutheran Church, Wichita · Peace Lutheran Church, Andover · Redeemer Lutheran Church, Arkansas City · Risen Savior Lutheran Church, Wichita · St. Andrews Lutheran Church, Wichita · St. John's Lutheran Church, Moundridge · Trinity Lutheran Church, Wichita · Zion Lutheran Church, Newton ·

WE WERE HONORED TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING MEMORIAL IN 2017:

In memory of Vera Vogts given by Frank & Marilyn Miller

MINISTRY UPDATE

Since the start of the new year, we have had some wonderful ministry opportunities. This year began with a **mission trip** to Beaumont, Texas to assist with the rebuilding efforts following Hurricane Harvey. Six young adults from the Wichita area along with our DCE, Paige, had the opportunity to install insulation and sheetrock in homes that were flooded last September. We were able to directly impact four families through this effort. It was a joy to get to know them as we worked in their homes and heard the stories of their experiences and also their path to restoration after such a terrible tragedy.

Our Thursday evening **Bible Study** is walking through the book *Loved and Sent* by Rev. Jeff Cloeter, which addresses "How two words define who you are and why you matter... You are loved more than you can imagine and sent with more purpose than you thought." This book is especially relevant for young adults as it addresses the topic of Identity and Purpose. We have had great discussions on Thursday nights! Other opportunities include **Saturday Sips: Young Women's Gathering** (1st and 3rd Saturdays), a **Bible Study for Young Adults** led by Dr. Tape (1st and 3rd Tuesdays), and **Theology on Tap: Fellowship & Discussion** (monthly).

Other opportunities for ministry appear every day at Fairmount Coffee Co., both within our interactions with our coffeehouse staff and guests who have made Fairmount Coffee Co. a part of their regular schedules and routines! We love how our community has grown through the addition of our coffeehouse ministry and are excited to see how God continues to grow and bless us at the LSC and Fairmount Coffee Co.

