

To Rejoice is to Forgive

by Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Oconomowoc, Wisconsin

The 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany
20 January, A.D. 2019
Isa 62.1-5; 1 Cor 12.1-11; Jn 2.1-11

Pre-Service Introduction

Introduction: God the Eternal Husband

Isaiah 62:5 (ESV)

This is just one of dozens of references or allusions to The LORD as the eternal "bridegroom" or "husband" and his people as the "bride" or "wife." One of these great references is in Jeremiah 31:

Jeremiah 31:31–32 (ESV)

³¹ "Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³² not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD.

I. The Church as Unfaithful Wife

Jeremiah 2:32 (ESV) [c. 620 B.C.]

³² Can a virgin forget her ornaments, or a bride her attire? Yet my people have forgotten me, days without number.

Jeremiah 3:20 (ESV)

²⁰ Surely, as a treacherous wife leaves her husband, so have you been treacherous to me, O house of Israel, declares the LORD.' "

Ezekiel 16:59–60 (ESV) [c. 590 B.C.]

⁵⁹ “For thus says the Lord God: I will deal with you as you have done, you who have despised the oath in breaking the covenant,
⁶⁰ yet I will remember my covenant with you in the days of your youth, and I will establish for you an everlasting covenant.

II. Christ the Forgiving Bridegroom

How has God been disciplining his people at the time of Jesus?

What promises did the people know?

Isaiah 25:6 (ESV)

⁶ On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

Jn 2.11—This the “first” of His signs...

protos v. archen

Jn 2.4—My hour has not yet come...

John 12:23–24 (ESV)

²³ And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.”



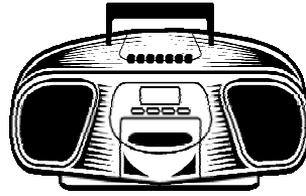
**Voters' Meeting
January 27, 2019
after Contemporary Worship in the Church**

AGENDA

Mission: Reaching, Serving & Growing Disciples

- A. Call to Order
- B. Opening Devotion
- C. Approval of Agenda/ Minutes from previous Voters' Meetings
- D. Committee Reports
 - 1. Board of Elders' Report
a. Pastor's Parish Report
 - 2. New Member committee report
 - 3. Evangelism committee report
 - 4. Marketing/Publicity committee report
 - 5. Mission Outreach committee
 - 6. Stewardship committee report
 - 7. Education committee report
a. School Principal Report
 - 8. Operations committee report
 - 9. Financial Oversight committee
 - 10. Endowment Fund committee report
- E. Treasurer's report
- F. Old Business
- G. New Business
 - 1. Nominations for Director of Parish Music
- H. Adjournment
- I. Closing Prayer

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO
SPONSOR A RADIO
BROADCAST?**



Our radio broadcast over WTKM is a very important outreach for our congregation. Below are the dates open for 2019. Please prayerfully consider sponsoring one of these Sundays. The cost is **\$95.00**. We praise God for this valuable community outreach.

Feb. 10	Apr. 21 (6am)	Aug. 11	Nov. 24
Feb. 17	Apr. 28	Aug. 18	Nov. 28
Feb. 24	May 12	Sept. 8	Dec. 1
Mar. 17	May 19	Sept. 15	Dec. 8
Mar. 31	July 14	Sept. 22	Dec. 15
Apr. 7	July 28	Oct. 20	Dec. 22
Apr. 14	Aug. 4	Nov. 17	

If you are interested in sponsoring a Broadcast please fill out the bottom portion of this page and hand it into the church office. Thank you. Any questions please call Heather in the church office 567-5001.

NAME _____

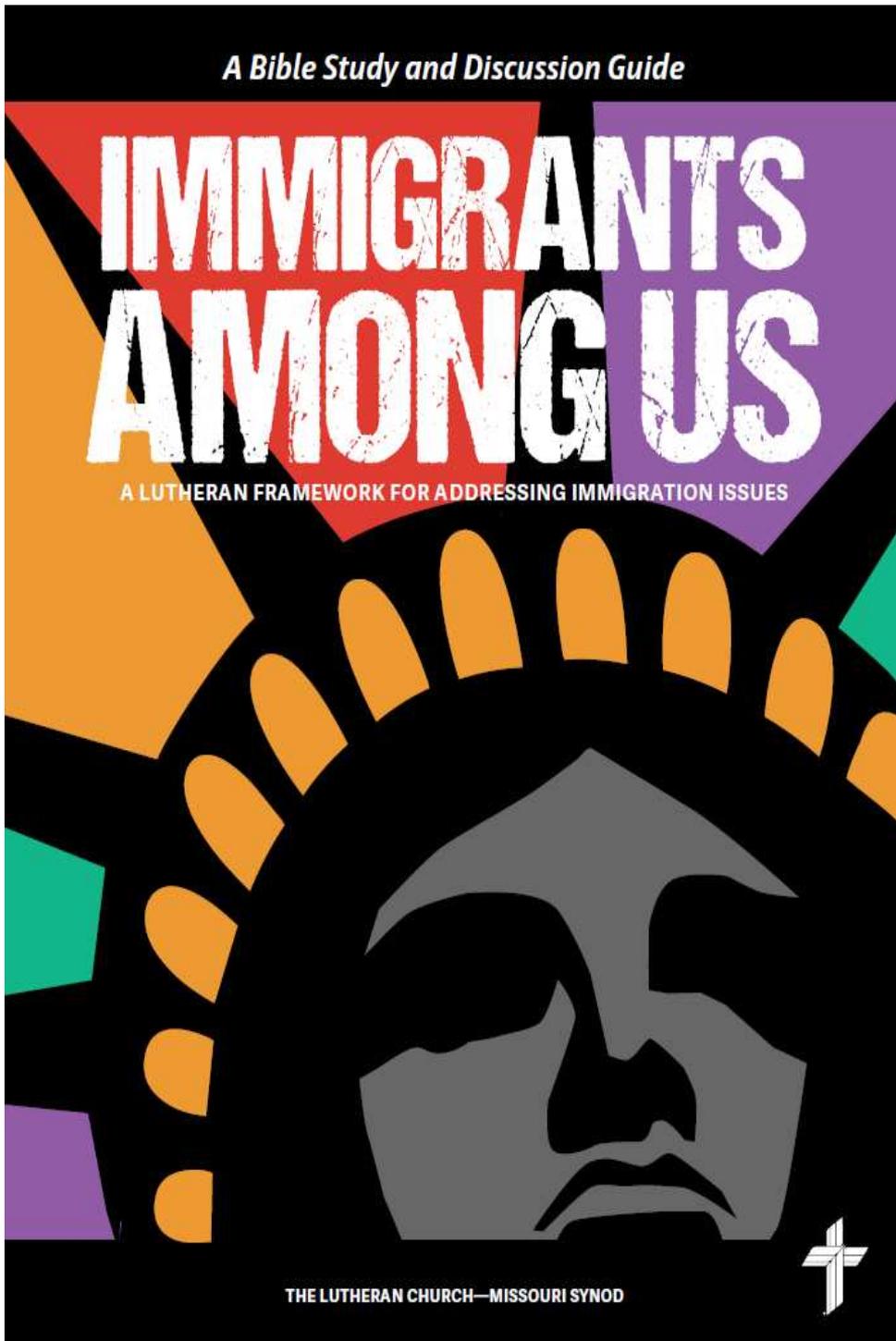
DATE- 1ST CHOICE _____ 2ND CHOICE _____

Please dedicate to (i.e. in memory of, wedding anniversary, to the Glory of God, in honor of...etc.)

A Bible Study and Discussion Guide

IMMIGRANTS AMONG US

A LUTHERAN FRAMEWORK FOR ADDRESSING IMMIGRATION ISSUES



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

New Adult Bible Study through February

Sundays, 9:15 a.m.

1: Immigrant Neighbors Past and Present.

Biblical teaching on loving our neighbor

2: God's Law, Civil Law and the Neighbor

Obedying the Fourth and Fifth Commandments

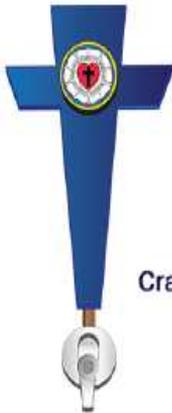
3: Living in God's Two Realms

Citizens of heaven and earth

4: Who is My Neighbor?

Our vocation, or calling, to serve our neighbor

The LORD is a God of justice *and* mercy. Not either/or (as our politics often is) but both/and. Join us at the beginning of the study or any time. It's a great opportunity to learn and grow.



Reformation Tap Society

Craft Beer * Friendly Conversation * Serious Theology

Held at BrewFinity Brewery

N58 W39800 Industrial Rd., Suite D
Oconomowoc

What can be better than having a drink with friends, eating delicious food, and talking about things that are truly important?

January 20, 2019

5:00 - 7:00 pm

Your New Year's Resolution Matters (Really, it does)

Presenter: Rev. Doug Stowe, Hartford, WI



**Kitchen will be open to
order food off the menu**



Reformation
Tap Society

Reformation Tap Society

Craft Beer • Friendly Conversation
Serious Theology

Third Sundays
5:00-7:00 pm

Babysitting is now available!

WHERE: St. Paul's Lutheran School
210 E. Pleasant St.
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

TIME: 4:30 – 7:30 pm

COST: Free will offering
Funds will go towards 2019 South Dakota Trip

Parents will need to supply snacks

Please contact Mary Wangler at
marywangler@hotmail.com
and let her know if you plan to come.

CCT: Jesus' sign at Cana points ahead to His own eternal _____, which is consummated by His cross and resurrection.

How does God show his eternal love to us?

Why did John the Baptist declare:

John 1:29 (ESV)

²⁹ The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

John 3:29

He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. So this joy of mine has been made full.

Revelation 19:7-9

"Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." It was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, "Write, 'Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb'" And he said to me, "These are true words of God."

III. The Marriage Supper of The Lamb

What is the sign and seal of God's love for us?

What is the lifeblood of the Church?

Where, in particular, does Christ distribute this?

What is most essential if you want a better marriage?

What is most essential if you want a better relationship with your parents?

What is most essential if you're dealing with bitterness of some kind?

Conclusion

CCT

As with the wine at that wedding, Christ's forgiveness is abundant and _____.

What does that mean for you today?