



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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Together at a Distance

Greetings and God's blessings to all of you from your brothers and sisters at Trinity Lutheran Church in Frankfurt, Germany!

As with all of you, our congregation has been through many changes in the last few weeks. Most recently, we began to offer our Midweek Lenten devotions and our Sunday Worship services on YouTube. I am pictured here leading our first online service with Seminarian Werner Straeuli. Werner is preparing for the Holy Ministry at the *Theologische*

Hochschule in nearby Oberursel, Germany. You can read more about Werner, his family and his future ministry plans in next month's newsletter.

The picture to right was sent to us by one of our families who wanted us to know how happy they were that they were able to join their congregation in worship from their living room. In the picture are Brend and Eric, father and son. Mom, Cindy, is behind them taking the picture. This family wants to remind us all that distance cannot keep us from being together.

Thank you to all of you who are making it possible for me to be here and to serve families like these!



Welcome Reverend Steven Braun

I was blessed to travel back the US to celebrate my mother's birthday this month. Never mind which birthday! While I was away, our congregation was pleased to welcome the Reverend Steven Braun to Trinity Lutheran as our guest preacher.

Reverend Braun recently joined the LCMS Eurasia Region team. He is currently living in Berlin while he studies the Persian language. When he completes his language studies he will serve here in Germany among the ever-growing Persian speaking population.

His name may sound familiar to some of you. His parents, Pastor Wayne and Linda Braun served Trinity Lutheran Church just prior to me. He had been blessed to visit our congregation before. They were glad to see him and encourage him as prepares to enter this new area of service in the Kingdom.



A Time of Study and Mutual Support

Pastor Joseph Asher, Deaconess Jennie Asher and Vicar Ryan Schnake of the Kaiserslautern Evangelical Church invited me to Kaiserslautern for our regular gathering in February.

We spent our study time working in the Lutheran Confessions. Specifically, we looked at the events in history that led up to the writing of the *Formula of Concord*. We were reminded that God's people have faced many challenges throughout the history of the church. Through it all, God is always faithful.

It has been a blessing to be able to support, encourage and consult with one another during these rapidly changing times. While we cannot gather at the moment, we have been staying in

close contact by phone and computer. We are looking forward to the time when we can gather together again. We are also looking forward to Pastor Dale and Sue Kaster being able to join again and to welcoming Reverend Steven Braun to our group.

Praying for Each Other

Your brothers and sisters in Christ are praying for you! We know that you are praying for us, too. In your prayers please remember:

- All those who lives have been impacted by COVID-19. Please join us in praying for those who have lost loved ones, for God's healing grace on those who are sick and all those who are vulnerable in any way. We also ask you to pray for all those in government, health care and all areas of public service.
- Our efforts to reach our congregation and community by means of the Internet. We are praying that God would use these efforts to reach those who might not yet have faith in Jesus Christ.
- For Chris and Laura Munchie as they celebrate the birth of their daughter Lucy. We pray that God would be with this family and bring Lucy swiftly to the waters of Holy Baptism.
- The Reverend Steven Braun. That God would bless him during his language studies and as he begins his service among the Persian speaking people in Germany.
- All of the missionaries in the Eurasia Region and their families. Please pray that God would continue to work through each of us so that many more people might come to the knowledge of the truth.
- My family in the US. Please join us in thanking God that my mother had such a joyful birthday celebration and that I was able to be part of the joyful time! Please also continue to pray for my parents in their various health issues concerns. My family truly appreciates your prayers!

To support the LCMS through the work of Pastor Gary Schuschke, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

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Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks "Support of Pastor Gary Schuschke" Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at lcms.org/schuschke

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