

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.”

2 COR. 8:9

St. Paul tells the Corinthians and you that Jesus was rich but because of you, for you and for your salvation, He became poor. The Son of God willingly left heaven and took on human flesh. He lowered Himself, being equal to the Father in His divinity and became a man. He became like you and me, yet without sin.

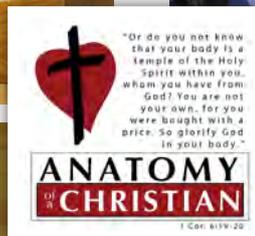
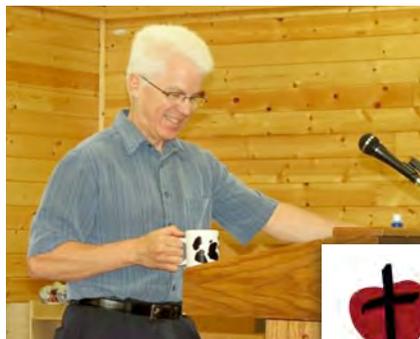
When Jesus was incarnated, He became poor, “as He submitted to the Law and fell victim to its curse.” Ultimately, it left Him alone, naked and abandoned on the cross. It is here that Jesus, fully God and fully man, exchanged places with all sinners. Here Jesus suffered for all the sins of mankind. Here Jesus paid your debt and for the justice that God’s Law demands for your sins. Here Jesus took your punishment.

So now, because Jesus Christ, the Son of God, has paid the dues for your sin, you receive forgiveness. And with forgiveness you know that salvation and everlasting life come with it. So your Jesus is now your Brother and you are a child of God, an heir.

Luther refers to this as the joyous exchange, Christ’s perfection for your imperfections. Trusting in His promises, you are rich. For you are an heir of a heavenly kingdom with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and all the saints. Thanks be to God that Jesus paid your debt in order for you to be rich.

Rev. Donald Klatt
Lakeland Region Pastoral Counselor

ANNUAL RETREAT FELLOWSHIP + FUN

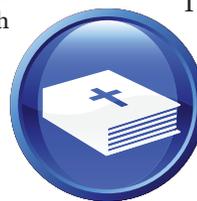


Clockwise from top left, Rev. Anthony Cloose, ladies cruise East Battle Lake, supper time for participants and parish nurse Kathy Schultz.



The weekend of Aug. 7-9, 42 women gathered to hear the Bible study presented by Rev. Anthony Cloose, Minnesota North District pastoral counselor, and guest speaker Kathy Schultz, parish nurse, during the annual LWML Retreat at Lutheran Island Camp. The theme was

“Anatomy of a Christian,” was based on 1 Cor. 6:19-20.



The women enjoyed pontoon rides around the camp and tours of Christ Serve Ranch. Singing around the campfire at night was fun, as were the “healthy” snacks, talent and fellowship the women shared.

SEASONAL PROGRAM HELPS

Looking for a devotion, skit or Bible study? Many free Program Helps can be downloaded from the LWML website at lwml.org/program-helps or ordered from the LWML store at lwml.org/store.

This coming Advent and Christmas season, take time to gather with your sister in Christ and share God’s Word.

- › **A-Cross-Tic Christmas: #59911**
A devotion with objects of gifts
- › **Mary’s Treasure Box: #59919**
A Christmas skit for three women
- › **On Our Way To Bethlehem: #59911**
A Christmas devotion with Christmas carols



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