



Mission Interpretation

Telling stories of our hands doing God's work

Mission Memo #573

Sept.27, 2022



A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

Readings

- [Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4](#) - *Wicked surround the righteous; wait for the Lord*
- [Psalm 37:1-9](#) - *Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord. (Ps. 37:5)*
- [2 Timothy 1:1-14](#) - *Guard the treasure entrusted to you: faith and love in Christ*
- [Luke 17:5-10](#) - *Faith the size of a mustard seed*

The Righteous Live by Faith

Faith is the theme for today's readings, but not just any faith. It is a life-transforming faith, one that demonstrates the very presence of God moving, alive, and active in God's people. In response to Habakkuk's oracle, the Lord answered him that "the righteous live by their faith" (Hab. 2:4b). But just what does it mean to be righteous? It's a righteousness imparted by God, who creates and claims each of us as God's own sons and daughters, bringing us into this family by our baptisms and by the faith God gives us makes us holy children. Being part of this divine family gives us our worth, even at those times we may not think of ourselves as worthy. In 2 Timothy, the author writes a history of the faith in Timothy's family, beginning with his grandmother and then passed on to his mother and himself. This is how many of us were first brought into the family of God: we had faithful parents who knew of their own God-given righteousness and then passed this gift on to their children. But again, it's all God's doing! Finally, Jesus' disciples boldly ask their teacher to "Increase our faith" (Luke 17:5). They knew that faith was something needed, and Jesus explains that even a small amount of faith can do great wonders. What does it mean to have this sort of faith, a faith that can serve God's purposes here to truly be God's work and yet it's done with our hands? On this Sunday, help the assembly experience this faith that God has given us. It's a gift and connection to our God.



Situation Report: Hurricane Fiona

Hurricane Fiona made landfall in Puerto Rico on September 18. The storm brought torrential rainfall and dangerous flooding and knocked out electricity across the entire island. Hurricane Fiona also caused major flooding in the Dominican Republic and other Caribbean islands. Afterward, it moved north and impacted the eastern coast of Canada.



Response: Lutheran Disaster Response is responding to Hurricane Fiona through the Caribbean Synod. The synod is providing gift cards for people impacted by the flooding so they can purchase their immediate needs. As the damage from the hurricane is assessed, Lutheran Disaster Response and the Caribbean Synod will develop a long-term recovery plan. Additionally, Lutheran Disaster Response is funding a disaster response and diaconal ministry team for the synod.

Coming Next: While Fiona left much damage in its wake, an even stronger storm, Hurricane Ian, is now moving through the region. It could strengthen to a Category 4 storm as it targets Florida. The hurricane made landfall in Cuba about 4:30 a.m. Tuesday just southwest of La Coloma in the western province of Pinar del Río with maximum sustained winds of 125 mph. It is reported to have knocked out power across the entire island. Forecasters expect the storm to continue to intensify as it makes its way north toward the west coast of Florida, where a hurricane warning has been issued. A number of counties along Florida's west coast issued evacuation orders. Lutheran Disaster Response will be there along the path of the storm to aid in the response.

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Be part of the response:

Pray - Please pray for people who have been affected by Hurricane Fiona. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need.

Give - Thanks to generous donations, Lutheran Disaster Response is able to respond quickly and effectively to disasters around the globe. Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response (Hurricane Response) will be used entirely (100%) to assist hurricane survivors.

LIRS - CREATING A WIDER CIRCLE OF OPPORTUNITY

For new Americans, landing a good job is one of the most important steps in the immigration journey. Employment provides stability, security, and a sense of purpose—and, for many refugees, is a stipulation of resettlement. But navigating the American workforce is no simple task. Cultural differences, language barriers, unspoken rules, and other factors can make the interview process twice as difficult.

A recent collaboration between LIRS's New American Cities program, nonprofit A Wider Circle, and the Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Employment Development aims to mitigate some of that stress. At a Baltimore event last month, refugee and immigrant jobseekers were invited to peruse a selection of donated professional clothing for use for interviews or to wear to their newly landed jobs.

While having a go-to professional outfit may seem like a small thing, A Wider Circle's Gina Garza says, it can make a world of difference in a jobseeker's confidence. [\(Learn More\)](#)

	Event/Activity	Resources
Oct 15, 2022 8:30 to 2:30	Metro Chicago Synodical Women's Organization Annual Meeting, "We are one - putting pieces together" Trinity Lutheran Church, 3637 Golf Rd, Evanston, IL	Registration form below or go to https://mcselca.org/swo-convention-2022/
Nov 11 - 12, 2022, 9:30 pm to 5 am	Youth Ministry Network Ultimate Lock-In, Enchanted Castle, Lombard	For details visit: https://mcselca.org/youth-ministry-network-ultimate-lock-in-2/
June 3, 2023	MS Synod Assembly 2023 In Jesus Name - Make Disciples Q Center, St. Charles	For more information visit https://mcselca.org/who-we-are/synod-assembly/



Registration for 2022 SWO Convention "We Are One: Putting Pieces Together"

October 15, 2022, Trinity Lutheran Church
3637 Golf Road Evanston, IL 60203
(847) 673-8564



This form is to be used by both voting members and participants. Please duplicate as needed. All are welcome to attend even if you do not have a women's organization in your congregation. Check-in will begin at 8:30 am with coffee and treats available.

Voting Member INFORMATION: Each congregation is to choose one woman who is willing to prayerfully participate in the business meeting and be willing to share information and inspiration from the day with her congregation. She will sit in the Voting Member Section during the business meeting.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

CONGREGATION NAME & CITY

YOUR NAME:

HOME ADDRESS:

STREET

CITY

STATE

ZIP

PHONE

EMAIL

ARE YOU A Voting member?: Y _____ N _____

PAYMENT AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Registration Fee

\$30.00 – Registration received on or before **September 24**

\$35.00 – Registration received after **September 24**

\$40.00 – **Registration at the door**

Need a scholarship? Please email Carol at mcswores@gmail.com by September 1.

I have enclosed my registration and \$ _____ to assist someone else.

Lunch will be served, please note any special dietary requests.

Vegetarian _____ Gluten free _____ Dairy free _____ Other _____

Sandwich: Turkey-cheddar _____ Roast Beef-Swiss _____ Veggie Caprese _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete the registration form above.

Register on line at <https://mcselca.org/swo-convention-2022/> OR

Mail registration form and check (made out to Metro Chicago SWO) to Sandie Schlauch, 7803 Palma Lane, Morton Grove, IL 60053 no Later than October 8

In-Kind Donations of non-perishable food items are being requested for **Connections for the Homeless, Evanston**. Suggested items include socks, toiletries (travel and regular size), shelf stable foods. Any additional questions email Carol at mcswores@gmail.com.