

Dear Friends,

A man has been working on a field for hours in the blazing heat. The field does not belong to him. He labors to earn a little money to feed his family. He wipes the sweat from his brow. A lot of work is lying still ahead of him. And on he goes.

There! He hits something hard in the ground. Is it another rock that he has to remove? No, it's a chest! He removes the dirt just enough in order to open it up. Gold, pearls and diamonds! The whole chest is full of them! What an amazing found!

But wait... what good does it do for him? The field doesn't belong to him, and neither does the treasure. So he goes to his boss to see what price he would name for the field. It's a high price, after all he doesn't have to sell the field. The man runs to his neighbors and asks them to buy his house, his life stock, his tools and all that he has. He stops people in the street, calls up everyone he knows, until he has sold everything, to the very last piece.

The money is just enough. He buys the field. As the new owner he now owns also everything that is on it. The chest belongs to him now. He is a made man. For the rest of his life he and his family don't have to worry about a thing.

Of course, you might say. Who wouldn't have done the same, right? For such a valuable thing I would have given up everything as well.

Jesus has told the story in order to show us how valuable His Gospel is. He showed us that His message of forgiveness of our sin, the mended relationship with God the Father, the joy we have in fellowship with the resurrected Lord in this life, the removal of fear of our death, the hope of our bodily resurrection and the life in eternity with God *is worth everything*. This has value over everything. This is what Jesus Christ came to reveal. For this He died on the cross. He rose from the dead in order to show that it is real.

Jesus' story in Matthew 13 demands an answer to the question: Are we ready to give up everything for our faith in Christ? With the help of the Holy Spirit we can. May God grant that to all of us. Remain blessed, *Pastor Tepper*

**"If religion is a fairy tale of those
afraid of the dark, then
atheism is a fairy tale of those
afraid of the Light."**

- John Lennox



Please Pray...

- For boldness, courage, desire, passion, joy, love—in each of us, in us—to bring the Gospel to the people, friends and strangers alike.
 - For the G.O.D. on May 27th, for all those who share the Gospel, for all who hear it. For faith and salvation for many.
 - For our confirmands Anna, Grace, Alzbeta and Vini that they embrace Christ as her Savior and follow Him all the days of their lives.
 - For those with birthdays this month:
 - May 12: Anetta
 - May 17: Julianna
 - May 22: Kunda
 - May 20: Fausta
 - May 28: Levente
- Send your prayer requests to: pastor @ alcb.be and specify whether it is private or to be shared.

Free buffet:
As part of the Day of Christians in Brussels on April 22, the ecumenical churches offered free lunch to passers-by.



Upcoming Events... Last minute updates/changes: www.alcb.be

Sunday, May 7

Wed., May 10

Sunday, May 14

Wed., May 17

Sunday, May 21

Wed., May 24

Sat., May 27

Sunday, May 28

Wed., May 31

Sunday, June 4

Wed., June 7

4:30pm Worship Service in Woluwe-St. Pierre

7:30pm Discovery Bible Study, Etterbeek

11:00am Service and Spring Picnic

at the parsonage in Leefdaal

7:30pm Discovery Bible Study, Etterbeek

4:30pm Worship Service in Woluwe-St. Pierre

7:30pm Discovery Bible Study, Etterbeek

All day: **Global Outreach Day (G.O.D.)**

4:30pm Worship Service in Woluwe-St. Pierre

7:30pm Discovery Bible Study, Etterbeek

4:30pm Pentecost Service in Sint Paulus church, Vossem

7:30pm Discovery Bible Study, Etterbeek

Worship services are held normally at: Ave. Salomé 7, Woluwe-St. Pierre (across the Centre Sportif, close to Stokkel)

Pastor Tepper: 0487 45 85 99 pastor @ alcb.be www.alcb.be

IBAN: BE71 9530 6054 7769, BIC: CTBK BEBX, Evangelisch-Lutherse Kerk. Address: Tabakvest 59, 2000 Antwerp

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Once a month we invite you to get together to discuss a Bible passage together. Just grab a cup of coffee or tea and

join in! It's a good place to ask questions you might have. **On Sundays, 2:30-4:00 p.m.** (just before our church service). The children enjoy instruction and fun at the same time during their Kids' Club.

Ask pastor for the location. (pastor@alcb.be)



Walking with the Lord



One Lord
One Faith
One Baptism

May 27
2017

Save the date!

Many ways to share!



Do you need ideas or would you like to join our outreach? Contact Pastor

30 Days of Prayer for the Muslim World



From 27 May to 25 June, hundreds of millions of Muslims worldwide will be observing Ramadan, the annual period of fasting and prayer. Between dawn and sunset, it is forbidden for Muslims to eat, drink, smoke or have sexual relations. It is also required for Muslims to pray in addition to the five times of set prayer, each day.

During this period of seeking God, many Muslims come away with dreams and visions of a man dressed in white – Jesus. Join with Christians around the world to pray for the Muslim world during Ramadan by using the free resource *30 Days of Prayer*. As well as helping you to pray for Muslims throughout Ramadan, it also contains information on Christians living in Muslim-majority countries. For many believers and other religious minorities, this is a particularly dangerous time of year where not adhering to the rules of Ramadan can lead to arrest and even beatings.

30 Days of Prayer includes:

- Useful facts and information about Muslim practices and beliefs
- Stories of how God is at work in the lives of Muslims today
- Daily focus on different countries and people groups across the Muslim world.

(from <http://www.opendoorsuk.org/resources/30-days-prayer.php?ref=story5>)

Our Investments in People's Lives

Thanks to all who have set up automatic bank transfer for tithes, contributions and donations for automated giving for God's glory.

In the new budget we have higher expenses in the first semester, for which we need to compensate in the second one. Please keep up your giving. This will determine whether we will call a pastor in 2018.

Mission '17 € 16,600*	Sunday Offerings	Bank Transfers	Total (goal vs. received)	Giving goals*
March	€ 1,342.65	€ 550	€ 1,892.65 (137%)	€ 1,383
April	€ 1,774.56	€ 620	€ 2,394.56 (173%)	€ 1,383
Year to date	€ 5,476.86	€ 2,100	€ 7,576.86 (137%)	€ 5,532
Things that you support	Outreach	Lives served	Neighbors, strangers...	May € 1,383

* 12 x 1,383=16,600 € is what we need to raise ourselves in Brussels. We are subsidized by the LCMS and the SELK for our total budget until this summer.

● **Spring Picnic** – On Sunday, **May 14th** we will come together for our annual church outing! 11:00a.m. worship service one last time in Leefdaal on the grounds parsonage. Afterward picnic with **potluck buffet (bring and share)** with BBQ and fun together. Please bring a dish for the buffet to share. Also: Games, blankets, balls...

● **Global Outreach Day (G.O.D.)** – We have the mandate to share the love of Christ in spontaneous as well as in organized ways. On **May 27** millions of Christians around the globe do that purposefully alone or in a team. You too can participate individually or in a group event. Join our Coffee2go Cart or our pantomime outreach. **Please pray for it.** You can read testimonies about in on the website www.globaloutreachday.com.

● **New Budget for 2017** – From July on the support of our sister churches that we enjoyed for the past 10 years will fall away. This can be seen the new budget (see below). To pay rent of the church building, the organ player and the interim pastor Johannes for their services to us and some other expenses, we calculated €16.600 for this year, which means €1,383 per month. This is a lot less than we needed to come up in previous years. But still: This is the minimum we need for the proclamation of the Gospel. **Thank you for continuing to cheerfully and abundantly support this important ministry.**

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

Please help the body of Christ with your gifts.

- Give cheerfully from your income
- Pick a "Task Card" at church
- Join our outreaches



catechism quiz

1. True or false: For all God has been doing for me as described in the first article of the Creed, it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.
2. How often should we repent and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever?
3. What does "hallowed" mean in the Lord's Prayer? Choose from A-D:
A. empty B. pure
C. feared D. holy

Answers:

1. This is most certainly true.
2. Daily
3. D- To keep holy.

the lutheran