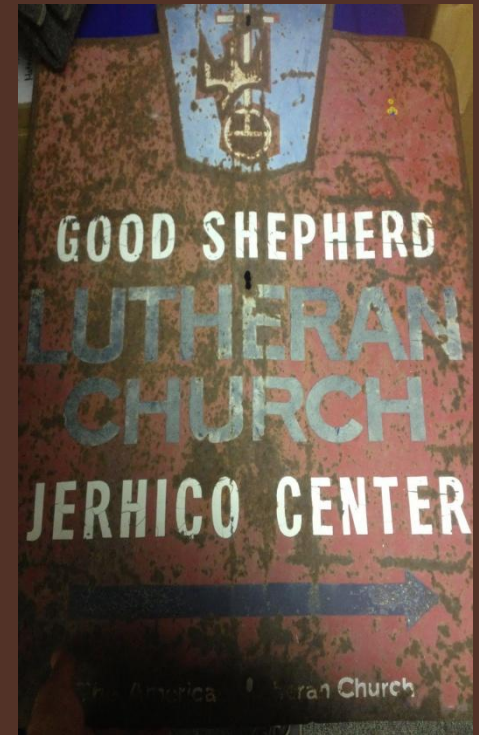


# Crash Course Evangelism



*Learning to share our faith, our God and our  
selves with the world*

# How Do we Tell our Story?



# What we are trying to avoid:



# So...what's a Lutheran?

Lutherans are people who make a *confession of faith*, a theological claim.

The way Lutherans have understood this claim has a rich history and many interesting points, but at its essence we find this: We are justified by grace alone, through faith in Jesus Christ alone. This doctrine is found in scripture, which is the only authority for belief.



# What's the good news?

- The gospel, or evangel comes from the Greek “euangelion” meaning good news or a good report. From its very meaning the gospel is something to be shared, told and spread.

# Confession

The first and most basic confession of faith is “Jesus is Lord.” Paul makes reference to this confession in 1 Corinthians 12:3

“So I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus is cursed, “and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,“ except by the Holy Spirit.”

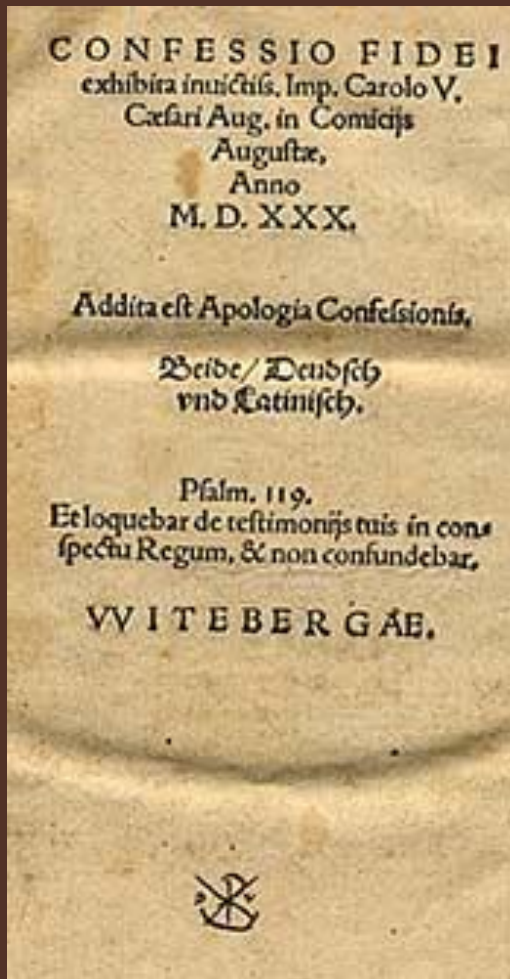




# Evangelism for Evangelicals

- Lutherans were the first to be labeled “protestants” in 1529, but this isn’t the name they called themselves. Like the term “Lutheran” the name was given to them by outsiders to give the impression that they had departed from the true faith. Lutherans have long maintained their unity with the catholic *catholikismos* “universal” church.
- The first Lutherans called themselves not Lutherans but Evangelicals

# Lutheran Confessions



In the Book of Concord, the summary and Authority of Lutheran teaching, there are the many confessions of faith from various centuries. Contained in the Book of Concord are the Apostles Creed, the Nicene Creed, the Athanasian Creed all confessions of Christianity by the ancient church. It also contains the Augsburg Confession, the Smalcald Articles, and the Formula of Concord, confessions of faith written by Philip Melancthon, Martin Luther, and the second generation of Lutherans.



# Evangelism

When Christians talk about evangelism, we mean the process of sharing the good news with other people. The basis for our activity is from scripture and the command of Christ in Matthew 28 often called “The Great Commission”

# Sharing and discipleship

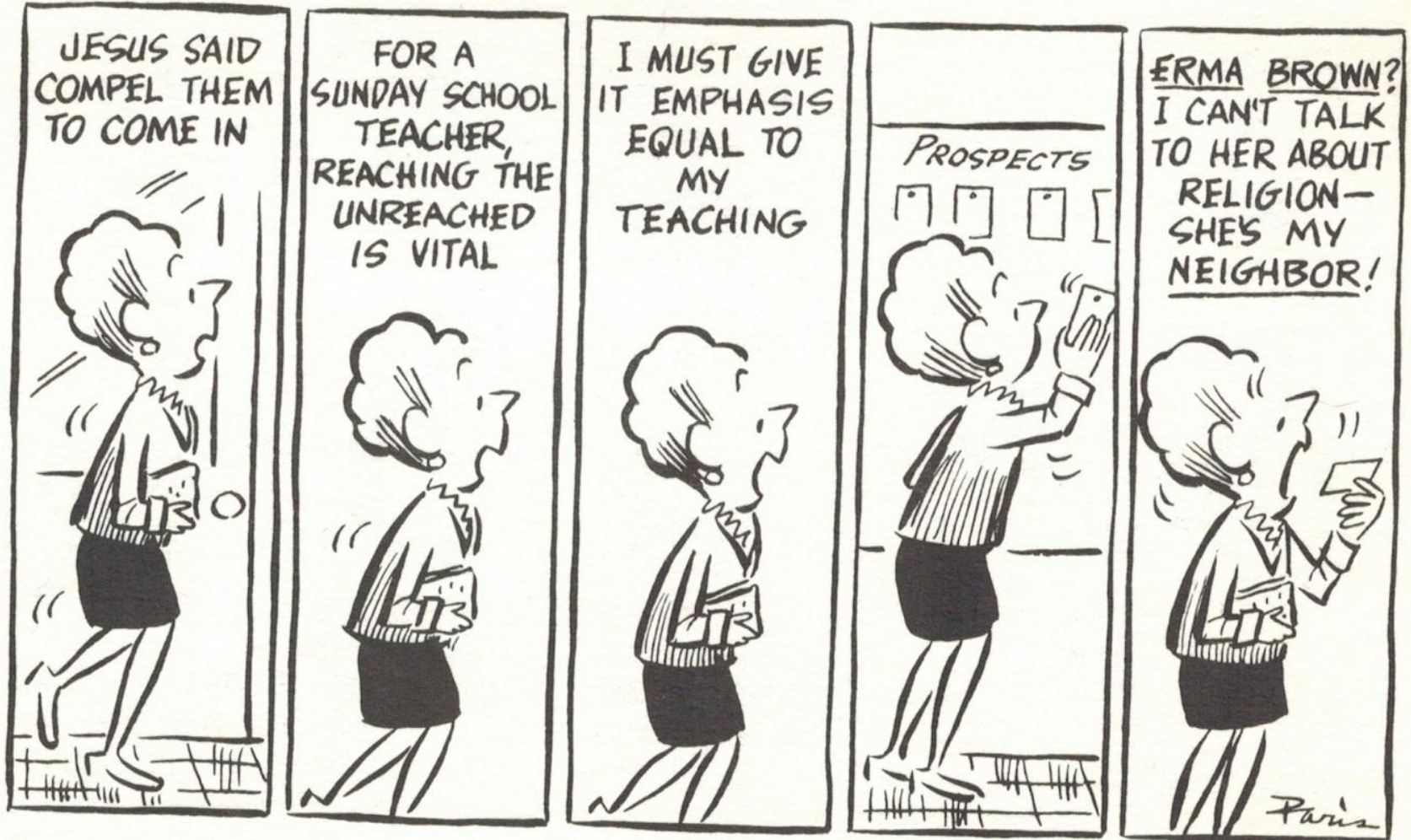
“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

-Matthew 28:19-20

# What does Evangelism look like?

- Catechism (teaching the faith) at church, home and school
- Conversations between friends, coworkers, family members and neighbors
- Invitations to church, camp and fellowship events
- Answered questions
- Worship

# Evangelism: is it scary?



# Passions and Barriers: we talk about the things that we love, even if they suit our “tastes”

- Food



- TV



- Music



# Reliance and Reviews: We rely on others to share their experiences

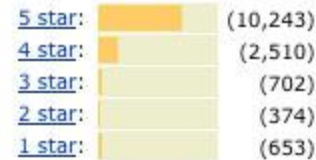
## YELP



## Amazon

### Customer Reviews

14,482 Reviews



### Average Customer Review

★★★★☆ (14,482 customer reviews)

### Most Helpful Customer Reviews

18,653 of 18,810 people found the following review helpful

# “She’s my neighbor!”

- If we don’t feel comfortable having these conversations with other Christians, we won’t take them outside the walls of the church
- Along with our fellow Christians, brothers and sisters in Christ, equip ourselves with this sort of language and vocabulary to be able to talk about church, God and our faith

# Candy Bars, Sports and the Vocabulary of Faith





# Baseball: Describing what's happening with greater precision

- Bat, Glove, Ball, Batter, Pitcher, Base, Home Run (content)
- Hit and Run, Double Steal, Righty/Lefty Matchups (strategy)
- Batting Average, Slugging Percentage, RISP, WHIP, WAP (analysis)

# Skill and Experience Gap

- Varying degrees of comfort with spiritual conversations like:
  - What God is doing in my life
  - What I'm learning about faith from the Bible church and my own experiences in life
  - What my church is like, and what it means to me that I belong

# Encouragement and Training Gap

- Predominately Christian society – no urgency if everyone professes to be a Christian
- So much else to do! Teaching the content of the faith and creating and maintaining meaningful relationships takes time
- “Not my job”

# Prayer and Scripture

- Evangelism the work of the church
- Evangelism is the work of disciples
- Most important thing for evangelism is a nourished faith: regular reception of the Lord's Supper, daily prayer and regular Bible study