

Marriage Toolkit



BY REV. BART DAY

A few months ago, U.S. Supreme Court ruled on the legality of same-sex marriage. As one of our task force members noted, “As Lutherans, we believe that marriage consists of and is based on more than just feelings. We believe men and women both are created in God’s image. We believe that they complement one another physically, psychologically and emotionally. And we believe that, from this balance of father and mother, children flourish.”

To help begin a discussion on what our Lord has to say about marriage, we have assembled a marriage toolkit. It includes a Bible study, marriage-related worship resources and links to helpful information—such as “What You Need to Know about Marriage”—from other organizations. I believe you will find these resources helpful discussion starters, especially among your congregational members, confirmation classes, Bible-study groups, family and friends. You can find all of those resources by going to www.lcms.org/freetobefaitful and clicking on “Marriage Toolkit.”

Also, along with the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA), Lutheran Church—Canada (LCC) and the North American Lutheran Church (NALC), The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod has released a statement affirming marriage and what Scripture clearly teaches about it and sexuality. You can download that statement at blogs.lcms.org/2013/an-affirmation-of-marriage.

Despite the Supreme Court’s ruling, we still have much to do. As LCMS President Matthew C. Harrison explained, “We repent, and we pray. We confess Christ and elevate marriage among us. We do what the church does best: We bear witness to Christ, show mercy to those in our midst, and we care for all in our life together.”

These resources are offered as part of the Church’s ongoing efforts to preserve the traditional definition of marriage. I pray they are useful to you.

