

Jacob's Creek Family Retreat

July 21 – 24, 2019



Dear Friends,

Jacob's Creek Family Retreat is right around the corner - July 21 through 24. If you've joined us in the past, we look forward to seeing you again. If you've never been before, I can promise you a wonderful experience!

Every year we have a theme that helps us focus our attention on specific teachings from the Lord's Word and on how we can actively make them a part of our lives. I'm happy to announce our theme for 2019: **Sacraments and Rites**.

The two sacraments, Baptism and the Holy Supper, are said to be in the Christian church like two gems in the scepter of a king. Elsewhere we are taught that they are the holiest acts of worship. In the past the real use of these two sacraments has been lost. But as you will see from *True Christian Religion* 669, the Lord has promised to reveal anew the profound use of these sacraments for those who will be of His New Church. Do we really appreciate the spiritual treasures that these two sacraments contain? How can we more actively make them an important and loved part of our lives? We will also spend time exploring some of the rites of our church. These include useful traditions such as confirmation, betrothal, home dedications, ordinations, memorial services and more.

SACRAMENTS AND RITES

“THE USES OF THE TWO SACRAMENTS, BAPTISM AND THE HOLY SUPPER, MAY BE LIKENED TO A TEMPLE, WHICH BY REASON OF ITS ANTIQUITY HAS SUNK INTO THE GROUND, AND LIES BURIED IN THE SURROUNDING RUBBISH EVEN TO THE ROOF, OVER WHICH OLD AND YOUNG WALK AND RIDE IN CARRIAGES OR ON HORSES, NOT KNOWING THAT SUCH A TEMPLE IS HIDDEN BENEATH THEIR FEET, IN WHICH ARE ALTARS OF GOLD, WALLS INLAID WITH SILVER, AND DECORATIONS OF PRECIOUS STONES. AND THESE TREASURES CAN BE DUG UP AND BROUGHT TO LIGHT ONLY BY MEANS OF THE SPIRITUAL SENSE, WHICH IS NOW DISCLOSED FOR THE NEW CHURCH, FOR ITS USE IN THE WORSHIP OF THE LORD.”
(TRUE CHRISTIAN RELIGION 669)

This year's pastoral staff will include the Reverend Scott Frazier, the Reverend Brad Heinrichs and myself. Our camp directors are Blake and Paul Messman, and Jamie and Julie Uber. With their help and the help of MANY other dedicated volunteers this promises to be another great year! We urge you to register early so you don't miss out. If you know of friends who would enjoy Jacob's Creek, please invite them. We look forward to welcoming one and all!

Rev. Matthew Genzlinger
Jacob's Creek Family Retreat Pastor