

Lutheran & Catholic Comparison

Wednesday Bible Study, Faith & Fellowship Nights, Fall 2022
Our Savior Lutheran Church and School, Lansing, MI

Things we do together

- Confess the Christian Faith in the Creeds
- Support Christian Education
 - Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools
 - Play Basketball ☺
- Church Calendar & Holidays
 - Advent – Christmas – Epiphany – Lent – Easter – Pentecost
 - All Saints Day / Ash Wednesday / Pentecost
- Prayer to the Triune God in the Name of Jesus Christ
 - Lord’s prayer (Catholics have shorter ending)
 - Meal Prayers
- Recognize each other’s baptisms and marriages
 - From US Catholic Conference of Bishops: *In 2002, concerns over certain practices (such as baptism by sprinkling) and spoken formulas (such as baptism in the name of the Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier) used by some Christians led the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of Christian Unity to urge national bishops’ conferences to study their mutual understanding of baptism with other Christians. These questions were examined and resolved by Round Seven of the Reformed-Roman Catholic Dialogue-USA, which produced the Common Agreement, as well as a study entitled “These Living Waters.”*
 - Baptism must have proper matter & form, and the minister must have proper intention.
- Support God’s Design for Marriage & Families
 - “natural marriage” or Biblical Marriage of one man and one woman
 - Divorce is not part of God’s plan (Catholics are more strict)
 - Children as a blessing & positive thing (Catholics are more strict)
 - Lutherans are neutral on birth-control, but positive towards children
 - Catholic teaching has opposed birth-control and positive of large families
 - Both stand in opposition to the world’s disdain for natural families
- Support God’s Gift of Life
 - Right to Life of Michigan & Lutherans for Life of Michigan
 - Opposition to Proposition 3
 - March for Life in Washington DC
- God’s Biblical Design for Marriage & Family
 - Matthew 19:3-9
 - I Corinthians 6:9-20
 - Psalm 127 & 128

Things we do apart

- The Sacrifice of the Mass (worship & communion)
- Catholics do not recognize ordination and ministry of Lutheran pastors (other than baptism)
- Confirmation & Instruction in the Christian Faith
- Prayer to saints or Mary
- Prayers for the dead
- Adoration of the saints or use of statues, charms, or other superstitions

1 Timothy 4:3 “They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth”

Revelation 19:10 “At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, “Don’t do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For it is the Spirit of prophecy who bears testimony to Jesus.”

Hebrews 9:27 “Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgement”

Questions yet to consider...